

BRIGGS HOUSE, OCTOBER, 1909



Seth Dean	Rosie T. Dean	Martha J. Aikens	P. C. Tinkham	Annah E. Dean	Mamie Briggs
Hattie E. Waite	Jessie C. Tinkham	Valura Harrington	Albert Aikens	Mrs. Shipman	Susan J. Jones
		Martha J. Harrington			

Briggs association of America.

Some Notes, Historical and
Genealogical, read at the first
reunion of the "Briggs Fam-
ily," held at Barnard, Ver-
mont, September 1, 1909, by
Seth Dean of Glenwood, Ia.

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NOTES

It is generally conceded by every one that there is a purpose in our journeys and undertakings in this world and I am sure that each one of us had a purpose in coming to this place at this time, and I assume that it was with the intention of forming new acquaintance or renewing old friendships, and adding to our store of family knowledge that prompted all of us to make pilgrimage to the former home of our ancestors, The Barnard family of Briggs.

It is with this thought in my mind that I have collected the following notes, as a basis for further study and reminiscent relation of those present, many of whom, no doubt, are far better qualified for this work than the writer. And in the getting together of these notes, I have tried to secure accuracy as to dates and facts—but I presume some errors exist. These can be corrected by those who are in possession of the proper information, it being my thought that this paper might furnish a foundation, perhaps, for a more complete record to be written up by competent hands for some future occasion of this kind.

It is but just at this time that I acknowledge my indebtedness to the Genealogical history of the family prepared by Asa B. and B. W. Briggs, and to Mrs. W. C. Danforth, Custodian of the Barnard town records, and to others for information furnished.

My subject very properly divides itself into two sections. First, a history of the farm, and therewith its share in the Common Civil and Political history of the town, and second, the history, largely biographical, of some of its several owners, but more particularly the Briggs family. No doubt some will feel the greater interest in the farm, while others will enjoy hearing or relating anecdotes or incidents in personal history. As I am not well informed on many of the events, I will simply outline most of the matter, leaving it to others to supply the details or missing links of fact.

The Briggs farm is a part of what, in colonial times, was known as the New Hampshire Grants. This territory being claimed under conflicting European grants by both New Hampshire and New York for several years, and each, trying to some extent to exercise a sort of government over it.

The tract of territory comprising the present town (or township as it would be called in the Western states) was granted or chartered by Governor Wentworth of New Hampshire to William Story, Francis Barnard or Bernard, and 78 others, probably most, if not all, of them residents of Hardwich, Mass., July 17, 1761; and so far as I have been able to learn does not seem to have been covered by any of the New York grants, although New York included it within what

she established in 1765 as Cumberland County, later on, viz., 1781. The state was redistricted by the legislature of Vermont, and the town became a part of Windsor County where it has since remained.

It is probable that the grant to Barnard and his associates was in some way confirmed or at least recognized by the Governor of New York.

Windsor County was incorporated in February, 1781, ten years before Vermont was admitted into the union as a state, viz., February 18, 1791.

The territory comprising the Barnard grant was surveyed probably about 1762 and contained about 29,360 acres. It was laid out in fairly regular oblong tracts of about 100 acres each, and numbered consecutively as lots from 1 to 300, and was organized as a town, April 4, 1778, with Thos. W. White the first clerk, and Thomas Freeman, Asa Whitcomb and Solomon Aiken the selectmen.

Asa Whitcomb was the first Representative and the first Justice of the Peace, and was also one of the framers of the State Constitution. It is for reasons that will be apparent further on in these notes that I refer so particularly to the above parties at this time.

The tract that eventually became the Briggs farm was lots 189 and 190, the lots adjoining each other and both having been drawn by James Hallowell in the allotment of shares in the grant; but it does not appear, so far as I can learn, that he ever lived on the farm, and possibly never saw the prize that he drew in the game.

The next owner that appears on the Barnard records is Philip Jurden of Hardwich, Mass. It does not appear when he bought, or how long he kept, the farm, but on June 4, 1779 he deeds lot 189 and the north $\frac{1}{2}$ of lot 190, being about 150 acres, to Ephraim Briggs of Ashford in the state of Connecticut, the consideration being 225 pounds lawful money. It would seem that possibly there was some defect in the title prior to this time, for we find that on June 10, 1790, Mr. Briggs secured from Wm. Sweetser, the town tax collector, for 4 pounds and 4 shillings and costs, a tax deed to the farm, and recited therein that this deed conveys all rights that the original proprietors may have had in the land at that time.

The farm seems to have been the home of Ephraim Briggs until July 10, 1790, when he sold it to his sons Asa B. and Benjamin Briggs, the consideration being \$1,500; and on October 26, 1805, Asa sold his half interest to Benjamin for \$750. The land remained in the name of Benjamin Briggs and as his home from this date until February, 17, 1836—or for 34 years—when he sold the farm consisting of lots 189 and 190, and 35 acres additional he had previously bought,

to George W. Dana of Woodstock for \$1,500. With this sale the land passed from the Briggs family, apparently permanently; and for some time after this the farm seemed to be trading stock and passed through a number of parties within a few years. I note that Geo. W. Dana sold to Elisha L. Sabin of Woodstock, Nov. 11, 1836, who in turn sold it to Ira Page. It next went through foreclosure proceedings in court, and on June 20, 1840, Mr. Sabin deeded it to Simeon Warren. Beyond this point I have not traced the chain of title.

The first house that was built on the farm was a log cabin erected by Capt. Ephraim Briggs, probably in the fall of 1779. This was located a few rods south and a little east of the present house and served its purpose as a dwelling for several years.

The present house was built about the year 1796 and is now about 113 years old, and in its general arrangement is much as it must have appeared when it passed out of the Briggs family. If the old house could speak to us today, what a story it could tell of joy and sorrow, of sunshine and shadow. It would tell of the children that have been born within its walls, the marriages that have occurred, and of the visits of the Grim Reaper for some of its inmates.

Of the Briggs family, the following children have been born on the farm:

To Ephraim Briggs and wife Rhoda Whitcomb Briggs—

Benjamin Briggs, born July 6, 1780.

Ephraim Dean Briggs, Dec. 21, 1782.

Asa Barnard Briggs, Jan. 18, 1785.

Joanna, March 13, 1787.

Rhoda, Nov. 17, 1793.

To Benjamin Briggs and Susannah Crowell Briggs—

Elijah, born Sept. 24, 1810.

Aliphal, Oct. 9, 1812.

Benjamin Crowell, Jan. 11, 1815.

Alexander, Feb. 5, 1818.

Susan, April 11, 1822.

Eliza Jane, Oct. 2, 1828.

Of the above named persons I believe the following were married here, viz.:

Joanna to Lemuel Richmond, Feb. 24, 1805.

Rhoda to John Caryl.

Aliphal to Daniel Waite, Jan. 29, 1833.

I believe Captain Briggs died here Aug. 10, 1829, and so far as my notes show no other member of the Briggs family has met death here.

Now a few brief words about the personality of some members of the Briggs family. Originally of English descent, Ephraim Briggs, the head of the Vermont branch of the family, was born at Taunton,

Mass., June 30, 1756. He was evidently an ardent patriot in Colonial times, as we find him enrolled as a member of Capt. Ezekiel Knowlton's company of Col. Nathan Sparhaw's regiment of Massachusetts militia at the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, when he was not yet 19 years old; and later he appears to have been a sergeant in Capt. Eben Dean's company of Taunton, Mass. He evidently must have been at or in the neighborhood of Bunker Hill when that battle was fought. He served in the Continental army for three years, commencing, as we have seen, with the opening of hostilities at Lexington, and ending some time in 1778 or 1779. The campaign of 1777 that ended with the capitulation of Burgoyne near Saratoga, N. Y., took most of the Massachusetts troops to the western part of the state, some of them being engaged in the battle of Bennington, Vt. Whether Ephraim Briggs was in this campaign or not, I do not certainly know, but I presume that he was, as he seems to have been at Hardwich about this time, and in June, 1779, his home was recorded as Ashford, Conn. It is probable that while with the army near Hardwich he became acquainted with Rhoda Whitcomb, his future wife, and it is possible that he may have known the family previously. Consider for a moment what it must have meant to a young soldier a hundred miles or more from home to be permitted to call at the home of one of the wealthy and leading families of the town, the head of the family having at this time unmarried daughters of an interesting age, and also having recently acquired several hundred acres of choice Vermont lands that only waited for energetic young men to take possession and develop her stores of wealth. Do you wonder that this son of Mars who did not fear King George's men, capitulated unconditionally before such forces as that? It is the same old story repeating itself; it is older than history and will continue to the end of time.

Barnard records say that Ephraim Briggs and Rhoda Whitcomb were married in Barnard March 19, 1780, by Asa Whitcomb Justice of the Peace. Evidently in this case the father not only gave away the bride, but also took a very important part in the transfer of that much personality.

Ephraim Briggs took a very active part in the affairs of the town and neighborhood, and on the breaking out of the war of 1812 commanded a company of Vermont troops in the Plattsburg campaign.

Capt. Briggs died August 10, 1829, at 73 years; his wife, Rhoda, died at Pierpont, N. Y., September 3, 1844, aged 84 years.

BENJAMIN BRIGGS—The oldest son of Capt. Briggs, married Susannah Crowell at Barnard November 30, 1809. They lived on the old farm until May, 1836, when he with his entire family (excepting his daughter Aliphah, then married) emigrated to Norwich, Huron Co., O., and took his share of the hardship of clearing a farm and making a home in the then far West. His life does not seem to have been different from that of most other settlers in the localities where he lived. He died at Norwich August 31, 1842. His wife, Susannah, died at Norwich January 13, 1875.

EPHRAIM DEAN BRIGGS settled in Rochester, Vt. He married Eliza Hodgkins of Rochester October 4, 1810. He was a very successful business man and financier, and held many positions of trust and influence in his town, at one time being one of the Judges

of Windsor County. He died at Rochester July 26, 1868. His wife died May 1, 1867.

ASA BARNARD BRIGGS, as we have seen above, sold his interest in the Barnard farm in 1805. He married at Barnard Jane Winslow, September 2, 1809, and moved to Pierpont, N. Y., in February, 1820. This was his home ever afterward. He took an active part in public affairs, served as a soldier for a time in the war of 1812, and for several years was Inspector of Public Schools at Pierpont. He died September 5, 1863. His wife, Jane, died May 10, 1870.

JOANNA BRIGGS was married at Barnard February 25, 1805, to Major Lemuel Richmond of that place. Her life, so far as I know, was spent in Barnard, and her death occurred there October 16, 1867. Her husband died at Barnard April 16, 1864.

RIIODA BRIGGS married John Caryl of Chester, Vt. She died at Stockbridge, Vt. Her husband died at Plainwell, Mich., May 30, 1882.

Of the second generation that was born on the farm—the children of Benjamin and Susannah Crowell Briggs I have the following notes:

ELIJAH—Settled in Attica, Ind. He married Helen M. Brownell October 1, 1839. Elijah died January 31, 1853. His wife, Helen, died December 15, 1862.

ALIPHAL—Married Daniel Waite, a native of Fisherfield, N. H., at Barnard January 29, 1833. They removed at once to Stowe, Vt., their permanent home. Aliphal died at Stowe June 16, 1888. Her husband died January 10, 1889.

BENJAMIN CROWELL—Married Clarissa Brown at Norwich, O., November 4, 1838. They lived on a farm in Norwich until October, 1873, when they went to Seneca, Kan. Here his wife died, and soon after Benjamin went to Topeka, Kan., where he died March 12, 1895.

ALEXANDER—Married Rosella M. Doten at Norwich, O., November 3, 1846; she died February 3, 1848. Alexander married, second, Phoebe A. Curtis, November 15, 1853, at Ithica, N. Y.; she died September 15, 1891. Alexander lived the life of a farmer from 1836 until 1881, when he moved to Norwalk, O., and later to Rochester, Vt., where he died April 5, 1908.

SUSAN—Was married to William E. Dean of Barnard, Vt., at Norwich, O., August 15, 1849. They at once removed to Lyons Township, Mills Co., Ia., residing on a farm there. Susan died March 31, 1872.

ELIZA JANE—Resided in Norwich, O., from 1836 until her marriage to William E. Dean of Lyons, Mills Co., Ia., Nov. 4, 1875. She died there Dec. 26, 1892. William E. Dean died March 27, 1894.

Having outlined in a very brief way some of the notes connected with the Briggs family during the time they were residents of Barnard, it seems proper that this account should be closed with their removal from the town. It is needless to say that the descendants of Ephraim Briggs are scattered far and wide and at the present time are in many different States, and one at least is in the Government service in the Phillipine Islands. An enumeration of the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Benjamin Briggs alone, seems to show about 89, of whom 62 are now living.

Notes of the First Reunion
Of the Descendants of Capt. Ephraim Briggs.

Held at the Briggs Farm, Barnard, Vt.,

September 1, 1909.

It was in accordance with a suggestion of Mrs. P. C. Tinkham of Rochester, Vt., that the following named parties met at Barnard village on Tuesday evening, August 31, 1909, viz:

Mr. and Mrs. Seth Dean, of Glenwood, Iowa.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Tinkham, of Rochester, Vermont.

Miss Mamie Briggs, of Rochester, Vermont.

Mrs. Susan J. Jones, of Barre, Vermont.

Mrs. Hattie E. Waite, of Barre, Vermont.

All except Mr. P. C. Tinkham and Mrs. Seth Dean are direct descendants of Ephraim Briggs. After conferring together, plans and preparations were made for holding a family reunion at the homestead, on the morrow, and the following program was arranged:

FORENOON

Song—America.

Words of Welcome—Mr. Frederick Chapman, owner of the farm.

Response—Paul Tinkham.

Music—Selection.

Reading of Historical Notes of the Briggs Family—Seth Dean.

Picnic Dinner.

AFTERNOON

Paul Tinkham, Toastmaster.

Reminiscent Notes and Anecdotes by Individual Members.

Music—Selection.

Song—Auld Lang Syne.

Departure for Home.

Wednesday, September 1, 1909—The weather this morning made necessary some changes in the program that had been arranged, and by common consent the interested parties met at the home of Mr.

and Mrs. Albert Aikins in Barnard village, at 10.30 a. m., the following parties being present, viz.:

Mr. Paul C. Tinkham, of Rochester, Vermont.
Mrs. Jessie C. (Briggs) Tinkham, of Rochester, Vermont.
Miss Mary A. Briggs, of Rochester, Vermont.
Mr. Seth Dean, Glenwood, Iowa.
Mrs. Annah E. Dean, Glenwood, Iowa.
Mrs. Susan Jane (Waite) Jones, of Barre, Vermont.
Mrs. Hattie E. Waite, Barre, Vermont.
Mrs. Abbie L. Shipman, of Milford, Iowa.
Mrs. Rosie T. Dean, of Barnard, Vermont.
Mrs. Albert H. Aikins, of Barnard, Vermont.
Mrs. Martha Jane Aikins, of Barnard, Vermont.
Mrs. Van Lora (Aikins) Harrington, of Barnard, Vermont.
Miss Martha Harrington of Barnard, Vermont.

Here a sumptuous dinner was spread, to which each family present contributed a share. After dinner Mrs. Hattie E. Waite was elected president of the meeting, with authority to call on any member present for remarks, and in accordance with the above plans. Seth Dean then read his paper entitled "Some Notes About the Briggs Family," and this was followed by remarks by other members.

The company then all drove out to the old farm some three miles south of the village, now owned by Mr. Frederick Chapman, of Woodstock. The party arrived there about 2:30 o'clock and was kindly received by Mrs. Chapman, Mr. Chapman being absent on business. An examination was made of places on the farm of interest to the older members—such as the site of the log house, the spring, the old pine tree where the children played, and the remains of the cider cellar. Mrs. Chapman also showed the company through the house and served them to an afternoon tea.

The party then returned to the hotel at Barnard, and after supper all met at the home of Mrs. R. T. Dean. There the evening was spent in social visit and in relating incidents and anecdotes of the members themselves or of their ancestors.

When the time for departing arrived, it was agreed that the next reunion be held at such time and place as the president might later designate, and of which all members shall receive notice.

Whereupon the meeting adjourned.

COPY OF THE FIRST DEED OF THE BRIGGS FARM.

Recorded in Book 1, Page 147, Barnard Town Records.

Know all men to whom these presents shall come:

I, Philip Jurden, of Hardwick, in the County of Worcester and State of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, Yeoman: send greeting. Know ye that I, the said Philip Jurden, for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred and twenty-five pounds lawful money to me in hand paid before the delivering hereof, by Ephraim Briggs of Ashford, in the State of Connecticut, Yeoman, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, have given and granted, bargained and sold and by these presents give, gran, bargain, sell and convey unto him the said Ephraim Briggs, his heirs and assigns forever, a certain tract or parcel of land being and lying in Barnard, in the County of Cumberland and State of Vermont, containing one hundred and fifty acres and is the Lot No. 189 and the northerly side of the Lot No. 190 and lies on the south side of Elias Keys land, with an allowance for highways through said land, which is full reserved. To have and to hold the said granted and bargained premises, together with all their appurtenances, to him, the said Ephraim Briggs, his heirs and assigns forever; and I, the said Philip Jurden, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, do hereby covenant with the said Ephraim Briggs that at the sealing hereof I am the lawful owner of said granted premises, with their appurtenances, and stand seized thereof in my own proper right as a good estate in fee simple, that I have lawful right to sell the same as aforesaid, that they are free of all incumbrances whatsoever, and further that I, my heirs, executors and administrators, shall and will warrant and defend said granted premises unto the said Ephraim Briggs, his heirs and assigns forever, against the claims of all people claiming by any authority by or under me or any original grantor.

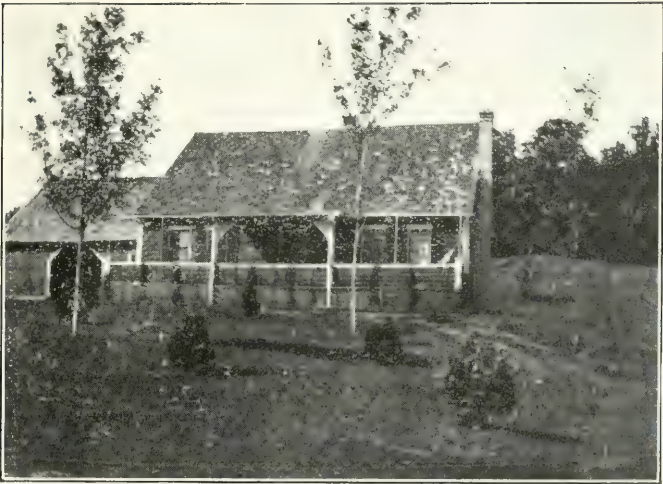
In witness whereof, I, the said Philip Jurden, have hereunto set my hand and seal this fourth day of June, 1779, and in the third year of the independence of America.

PHILIP JURDEN. [L. S.]

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of
Timothy Eastman
Rhoda Whitcomb

Aniboland, s. s.—June the 4th, 1779. I, the above named Philip Jurden, personally appeared and owned this instrument to be his free act and deed, before me

Asa Whitcomb,
Justice of the Peace.



BRIGGS HOUSE, 1900

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"The Person Who Is Not Loyal to the Memory of His Ancestors
Deserves Himself to Be Forgotten."

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

Second, Third and Fourth Reunions

of the

Briggs Association in America



Officers, 1917

President	-	B. W. Briggs, 1901 S. 16th St., Omaha, Neb.
Vice President	-	Benj. B. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Secretary	-	Seth Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Treasurer	-	Arthur Waite, Decatur, Ill.
Historian	-	R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.

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The fifth Reunion will be held in 1918, the time and place
to be named by the President of the Association.

GIFT
ASSOCIATION

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE
SECOND BIENNIAL REUNION

of the
DESCENDANTS OF CAPT. EPHRAIM BRIGGS

Held at
Barnard, Vt., July 14-15-16, 1911.

In accordance with arrangements previously made by resident parties, the following named met in reunion at the Cliflin summer cottage on the border of Silver Lake at the Town of Barnard, Vermont, on July 14, 1911, viz:

Paul C. Tinkham, of Rochester, Vt.
Jessie C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Mary A. Briggs, Rochester, Vt.
Lelia D. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Hattie E. Waite, Barre, Vt.
Susan J. Jones, Barre, Vt.
Carolyn B. Field, St. Louis, Mo.
Dr. Edward F. Jones, Indianapolis, Ind.
Jane Briggs Packard, Bloomington, Ill.
Rhoda Briggs Burt, Potsdam, N. Y.
Clarence E. Blackmer, St. Louis, Mo.
Rosie T. Dean, Barnard, Vt.
Daulora A. Harrington, Barnard Vt.
Martha E. Harrington, Barnard, Vt.

The general purpose of the reunion being the making of new, or renewing the former acquaintance of relatives near and distant, and the enjoyment of the pleasures of a summer outing at the Town of Barnard, near which the ancestors of most of those attending had resided for many years, emigrating there from other New England colonies in pioneer days while Vermont, now a wealthy and prosperous state, was a waif, seemingly, claimed in part by New Hampshire, New York and Massachusetts and each immigrant doing his or her part in moulding the policy that has made the now great Commonwealth of Vermont one of the best states in our Glorious Union.

The program, largely an informal matter, under the direction of the President, Mrs. Hattie E. Waite, partook mostly of social pleasures, visiting places of interest in the vicinity and particularly the old Briggs farm, and also the Crowell farm, places originally owned by their ancestors. Letters were read from a number of members and parties who were unable to attend, anecdotes were related and interesting stories of personal experience of members and reminis-

cences of "ye olden times" helped to enliven the spirit of the occasion.

A visit to Barnard Cemetery, where many of the early settlers of the town are buried, recalled memories of by-gone days. It appearing that the monuments now marking the graves of Capt. Briggs and Asa Whitcomb were in need of repair and resetting, arrangements for having this work done at the expense of the Briggs Association were made and the work promptly done.

On Sunday, July 16, most of the members present attended the Barnard Universalist church, of which Capt. Ephraim and his wife, Rhoda Whitcomb Briggs, were charter members at its organization in 1809. As the church organization has had a continuous existence through the intervening years, the old building almost seemed to speak to the visitors and bid them keep in memory the strong Christian faith and sterling character of their ancestors.

The following were elected officers of the Briggs Association for the term of two years, viz:

President—Mrs. Hattie E. Waite, of Barre, Vt.

Secretary—Mrs. Carolyn B. Field, St. Louis, Mo.

Treasurer—Mrs. Jennie B. Packard Bloomington, Ill.

Historians—Mrs. Jennie B. Packard, Bloomington, Ill.; Mrs. Rhoda B. Burt, Potsdam, N. Y.

A resolution was then passed to hold a third reunion in 1913 at such time and place as the president shall find most convenient for all parties.

After which the reunion was declared ended and the parties returned to their homes.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE
THIRD BIENNIAL REUNION

of the
DESCENDANTS OF CAPT. EPHRAIM BRIGGS

Held at

Barnard, Vt., August 15-16-17, 1913.

The following named parties attending, viz:

Hattie E. Walte, Barre, Vt.
Susan J. Jones, Barre, Vt.
Dr. H. N. Waite, Johnson, Vt.
R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.
Mrs. R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.
Dena Richmond, Rutland, Vt.
George W. Briggs, Lebanon, N. H.
Rhoda Burt, Potsdam, N. Y.
Jane Briggs Packard, Bloomington, Ill.
Carolyn B. Field, St. Louis, Mo.
Clarence E. Blackmer, St. Louis, Mo.
Arthur Wait, Decatur, Ill.
Erma Wait, Decatur, Ill.
Ines L. Lease, Waterbury, Vt.
Donald Lease, Waterbury, Vt.
Julia Curtis, Newark, N. J.
Paul C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Jessie C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Lelia B. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Seth Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Annah E. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Harvey Dean, Pacific Junction, Ia.
Albert Aiken, Barnard, Vt.
Van Lora Harrington, Barnard, Vt.
Martha J. Harrington, Barnard, Vt.
Harry Perkins, Barnard, Vt.
Augusta Perkins, Barnard, Vt.
Julia A. Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Ellen Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Mrs. Chester Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Phyllis Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Chester E. Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Mary A. Briggs, Rochester, Vt.

Accommodations for the party had been secured at B. C. Hathorn's, about one mile from the village, an ideal location overlooking

Silver Lake, village, and surrounding country, and Thursday, the 14th, was spent in greeting and becoming acquainted with old and new members. Letters of greeting from absent members, who were unable to be present, were read by the President.

Friday morning at 10 A. M. the meeting was opened by our President, Mrs. Hattie E. Waite, singing of song ("Old Lang Syne") words composed (or remodelled) by some of the members and sung to the tune of "Old Lang Syne."

Should our old Grandsires be forgot
And never brought to mind;
Should our old Grandma's be forgot
And days of Old Lang Syne.

Chorus:

For days of Old Lang Syne, my dear,
For old Lang Syne
We'll take a cup of kindred love,
For Old Lang Syne.

We all have come from far and near
For this, the New Lang Syne;
We bring a greeting warm and dear
For this glad summer time.

We all have wandered o'er the hills
That knew our Grandsires time;
We've bridged the miles between our homes
For the sake of Old Lang Syne.

And here's a hand, my cousins dear;
Gi'e us a hand of thine.
We'll take the cup of kindred love,
For Old Lang Syne.

The adopting of the Constitution and making it a permanent organization was discussed and a committee appointed, consisting of Seth Dean, Harvey Dean and Rollin L. Richmond. Reading of the Constitution and by-laws by Rollin Richmond. Open for discussion. Motion made and carried that the paper be taken up by sections.

Friday, the 16th. Called to order by the President at 10 A. M. After much discussion, changing and amending the constitution. The Constitution was adopted, the Association to be known as the "Briggs Association in America." The first idea of a Briggs association was formed by Jessie Tinkham and Seth Dean and it was suggested that their names come first on list of charter members. Friday P. M. a trip was made to the old home of Ephraim Briggs. We were very cordially welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, present occupants of the home, and shown about the home, and told of various changes that had been made in the home. Interesting papers of the Briggs Genealogy was read by Seth Dean and others, near the spot where the first log cabin was built and where our Great Grandfather took

his bride, Rhoda Whitcomb, to live. A poem, representing the old home speaking to us, was composed and read by Mrs. Jessie Tinkham; responded to very nicely by Donald Lease, a 12-year-old lad and the first son of the seventh generation. A goodly number of the party took the trip to the old "Pine Tree," of early fame, where our ancestors used to play house and have their dinner parties; also up the hill to the famous "old spring" and drank of its pure cold water, which seemed to put new life in us all. A few of the octogenarians who preferred to accept the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Chapman to remain in rocking chairs on the broad piazza never will know what they missed and never can be told, as it must be seen to be known and appreciated.

Saturday, the 16th. Meeting called to order at 10 A. M. The report of the nominating committee was read by the chairman, presenting the following names for election: For President, George W. Briggs of Lebanon, New Hampshire; Vice-President, Harvey Dean, of Glenwood, Iowa; Secretary, Seth Dean of Glenwood, Ia.; Treasurer, Arthur Waite of Decatur, Ill.; Historian, Rollin L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt. Motion was made and carried that we vote collectively. Motion made by Mrs. Grace Richmond, seconded by Paul Tinkham, that officers named by nominating committee be elected unanimously. Carried. Secretary's report read and approved and placed on record. Treasurer reported \$2.65 expended on repairing the tombstone of Asa Whitcomb, \$4.25 expended on printing matter, balance in Treasury \$10.10. Moved and seconded by Seth and Harvey Dean that report be accepted and placed on record. Carried. A memorial report of the death of two of our number, who have been laid to rest since our last reunion (Mrs. Angeline Jones and Mrs. Rosie Wood Dean), was read by Seth Dean. On motion made and carried, report was placed on record. The President reported on the condition of the tombstones of Elijah Briggs and his sister, Reliance, who are buried in Berkley, Mass. (Hattie Wait, Jessie Tinkham and Susan Jones had visited Berkley in the early summer and found the burial places of Gt. Gt. Grandfather Jonathan and Gt. Gt. Grandfather Elijah and Reliance Briggs.) Motion was made and carried, by Seth Dean and Arthur Waite, that an investigating committee be appointed and \$50.00, more or less, as needed, be expended on repairing and fixing up the tombstones of our ancestors. Adjourned for dinner, after which one hour was spent in giving toasts around the table. Seth Dean, the toastmaster, made some interesting remarks, followed by George Briggs, Harvey Dean, Clarence Blackmer and others, all remarks relating to the Briggs family. The meeting was called to order at 3 P. M. Reading of the Constitution as amended, for the benefit of those members who were not present when first read. Payment of dues then in order. The dues were fixed at \$1.00 each per year. There were 34 members present, 7 states represented, doubling the number of our reunion of 1911. This, with the \$10.10 in Treasury will give our Treasurer a good start and we hope for great success. Historical sketches of the various branches of the Briggs family were read by Mrs. Rhoda Burt, Rollin L. Richmond

and Jennie B. Packard; the first, sketches in the life of Asa Whitcomb and Asa Barnard Briggs, the last a sketch of the life of her father, Josephus Briggs. Rollin Richmond's "Tree of the Briggs'" was very interesting.

A poem composed and read by Mrs. C. B. Field:

Greetings from Vermont

From the hills and valleys of Old Vermont,
From loyal hearts, and true,
From fertile farms, and maple groves,
Come cordial greetings to you.

From the broad Connecticut, on the east,
To Lake Champlain, on the west,
A wish goes forth from the Green Mountain State
That Fortune give you her best.

To all the friends who are gathered here,
We bid you welcome, with right good cheer;
And may the week, ere it shall be done,
Be fully enjoyed by every one.

We are met together, a reunion to hold
Of the great Briggs family, of whom all have been told
How they cleared the forests, and made the town,
And built their homes and tilled the ground.

When we look this country o'er
And see what they have done,
It ought to fill with pride
The hearts of every one.

So sink or swim, live or die,
Let us stand by the Briggs's, forever and aye;
And every other summer, we hope to see
All of the friends, in the good town of B.

Where our ancestors lived and raised their flock
Of men and women—a grand old stock;
Men and women sturdy and strong,
Striving for right, and shunning the wrong.

As for ambition, energy, endurance and wit,
They tell me the Briggs were full of it.
And as the ages roll along and our burden of life laid down,
May our descendants pick up the work and carry it on and on.

Enjoy the work as we have done
And work in harmony, every one.

May they cherish the memory of those gone before
And be true to each other forever more.

Over the road and up the hill
Lieth a village, white and still;
The marbel doors are always shut;
You cannot enter, hall, or hut;

And in that village, the records say,
Some of our ancestors are laid away.
Let us so live our lives, that, when laid to rest,
Our descendants can truly say, "They did their best;"

And when the final summons comes
To leave this earthly din,
May we meet Saint Peter at the gate, who will say:
"Thou hast done well, enter thou in."

Motto chosen: "The person who is not loyal to the memory of his ancestors, deserves himself to be forgotten." The installation of officers now took place and the newly elected officers were marshaled in by the retiring officers. All through the reunion by the way of relieving the business part, at intervals, many stories and jokes were exchanged and extracts from the diary of Elijah Briggs in 1764 was read by R. L. Richmond and thoroughly enjoyed by all. This diary was in the possession of a party in Berkley and kindly loaned to us.

One very amusing feature was that of a mock court trial, and very ably rendered by the judge, George Briggs, Sheriff Paul Tinkham, Lawyer Seth Dean, Prisoner Harvey Dean and Accomplice Rollin Richmond. It afforded great amusement for all present. No further business coming before the meeting, we adjourned until some time and place to be designated by the executive board and of which all members shall receive notice. Camp broke up Sunday A. M., the 17th, part of the members going to church and part leaving for their homes, followed on Monday by the rest, and the Briggs reunion of 1913 was a thing of the past.

—Carolyn Briggs Field, Secretary.





1. Harvey Dean; 2. Paul Tinkham; 3. Seth Dean; 4. Geo. W. Briggs; 5. Arthur Wait; 6. Donald Lease; 7. Dr. H. N. Wait; 8. R. L. Richmond



1. Mrs. J. C. Tinkham; 2. Miss Lelia D. Tinkham; 3. Mrs. Julia A. Curtis; 4. Mrs. Seth Dean; 5. Miss Erma Wait; 6. Miss Mary A. Briggs; 7. Miss Mary A. Briggs; 8. Mrs. Carolyn Field; 9. Mrs. Jane B. Packard; 10. Mrs. Inez Lease.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
FOURTH REUNION OF THE BRIGGS ASSO-
CIATION IN AMERICA

Held at
Rochester, Vt., August 9-10-11, 1916.

The session was called to order by the President, George W. Briggs, Wednesday, August 9th, at 2 P. M., with the following officers present, viz: Harvey Dean, vice president; Seth Dean, secretary; R. L. Richmond, historian. The treasurer, Arthur Wait, being absent on account of illness in his family. The register showed the following members attending:

Geo. W. Briggs, Lebanon, N. H.
Mrs. Jennie B. Packard, Bloomington, Ill.
Rollin L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.
Mary A. Briggs, Rochester, Vt.
B. B. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Mary W. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Seth Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Annah E. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Harvey Dean, Pacific Junction, Ia.
Paul C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Jessie C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Mary A. Briggs, Rochester, Vt.
Lelia T. Miller, Rochester, Vt.
Dr. H. N. Waite, Johnson, Vt.
Carolyn B. Field, St. Louis, Mo.
Hattie E. Waite, Barre, Vt.
Susan J. Jones, Barre, Vt.
Rhoda B. Burt, Potsdam, N. Y.
Ellen L. Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Julia A. Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Mary J. Aiken, E. Braintree, Mass.

Visiting guests:

Norman Baker, Norwalk, O.
Celia Baker, Norwalk, O.

The minutes of the third reunion were then read by the secretary. Letters from absent members expressing their interest in the Association and regretting their inability to attend, were much appreciated by those present.

The President then gave an oral address full of good suggestions

for the future of the association, which was well received by all present.

The report of the Secretary was then read showing a present membership of thirty-five, and was ordered placed on file.

The Treasurer's report having been mailed to the secretary was then read and on motion both the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were referred to a committee consisting of Hattie E. Waite and Mary Briggs for auditing.

The attention of the president having been called to the fact that several members of the association had died since the last meeting, B. B. Dean, Jessie Tinkham and Carolyn Field were named as a Committee on Necrology.

The regular business of the day having been concluded, a member presented the following: Whereas, it appearing that a traditional belief is current among the members that Gabriel was one of the ancestral Briggs, the matter was by unanimous vote at this time referred to the Historian, who successfully established that fact by undisputed written evidence in his possession.

After which the business session was closed to permit the members to accept an invitation to a supper given by the ladies of the Rochester Universalist church, which was greatly appreciated by all.

Wednesday evening was passed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tinkham in social visit and at this time the Historian made a report on some genealogical facts of interest to the Briggs family. The report was approved.

Thursday August 10, 1916.

The Association met and was called to order by the President at 10 A. M., at the Pierce residence, the present building occupying the site of the former home and store of E. D. Briggs, for many years Rochester's leading merchant. The old store was destroyed by fire February 11, 1914.

The Auditing Committee now presented its report, viz:
To the Briggs Association:

We, the Auditing Committee, report that we have examined the reports of the secretary and the treasurer as filed and find them correct; and that the treasurer has collected from all sources \$63.09 and has paid out \$18.00, leaving a balance in his hands of \$45.09. We find that the secretary has collected from membership fees \$3.00, and has paid out for current expenses per bills \$6.00, showing a balance due him of \$3.00. We recommend the report be approved.

Hattie E. Waite, Mary A. Briggs, Carolyn B. Field, Committee.

On motion, the report of the committee was approved and ordered put on record.

The Executive Committee now made its report, as follows, viz:
To the members of the Briggs Association in America:

Your Executive Committee report that we find the Association to be a very much alive organization in spirit and acts, if not unwieldy in numbers, and we believe it has a useful mission to fill. In the

matter of unfinished business we find that the matter of repair of the tombstones of Elijah and Reliance Briggs, provided for at the third reunion has not yet been carried out and we recommend that it be referred to the incoming Executive Committee for their action. We find no other unfinished business from the last reunion.

Respectfully submitted,

George W. Briggs, Harvey Dean, Seth Dean, Committee.

On motion the report was received and ordered of record.

The following resolution was then presented and on motion passed unanimously, viz:

WHEREAS, Information comes to us that there is illness in the family of one of our esteemed members, Fao Wait, of Decatur, Ill., with a possibility of the disease appearing in the family of our Treasurer, Arthur Wait, preventing the attendance of these families in this reunion Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the members of this Association, that our sympathy be and is hereby extended to these families and the hope that the ill ones may speedily recover, and the Secretary be and is hereby instructed to convey this message to the parties.

The following was then presented and on motion passed, and the Secretary instructed to notify Mr. Briggs of our action, viz:

Whereas, We learn that Mr. Charles H. Briggs of Minneapolis, Minn., is now engaged in the compilation of a genealogical history of the Briggs families in America and believing this to be both a necessary and a meritorious work requiring much study and research as well as expense in getting the facts together and publishing the same, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Briggs Association assembled in its fourth reunion at Rochester, Vt. on August 10, 1916, that we approve of this work and commend it to our members and recommend that individually they render Mr. Briggs all assistance possible in securing reliable data for this history.

The Secretary at this time presented the following list of names of parties who made application for membership in the Association, viz:

Benj. W. Briggs, Omaha, Neb.
Ephraim Briggs, Fort Dodge, Kan.
Mary Briggs, Fort Dodge, Kan.
Percy R. Blackmer, St. Louis, Mo.
L. G. Blackmer, St. Louis, Mo.
John E. Briggs, Iowa City, Ia.
Ida J. Briggs, Glenwood, Ia.
Grace M. Waite, Barre, Vt.
Louis Briggs Jones, Providence, R. I.
Ida R. Davis, E. Braintree, Mass.
Caroline W. Berry, E. Braintree, Mass.
Leslie Dean Pierce, Rochester, Vt.
Benjamin B. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.

Mary W. Dean, Glenwood Ia.
Henry H. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Mary P. Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Doris Briggs, Deerfield, Mass.
Guy W. Briggs, Deerfield, Mass.
Helen S. Briggs, Deerfield, Mass.
Mary J. Aiken, E. Braintree, Mass.

On motion the parties were each unanimously elected to membership.

The report of the Nominating Committee was now presented, being as follows, viz:

To the Briggs Association:

Your committee nominate and recommend the following named parties for officers of the Association for the next biennial period, viz:

For President—B. W. Briggs of Omaha, Neb.
For Vice-President—Benj. B. Dean of Glenwood, Ia.
For Secretary—Seth Dean of Glenwood, Ia.
For Treasurer—Arthur Waite of Decatur, Ill.
For Historian—R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.

Respectfully submitted,

P. C. Tinkham, Rhoda Burt, Julia A. Pierce.

On motion the report was received.

A motion was then made with second and carried that the rules requiring a separate vote on each candidate be suspended and that the Chairman of the Nominating Committee be instructed to cast the unanimous ballot of the members present for the parties recommended. And the same was then done.

The meeting was then adjourned to permit the members to dine and then go on an excursion trip provided by the local members, to visit places of interest in the vicinity.

No session was held in the afternoon.

Called to order at 8 P. M. at the home of Mrs. Pierce. Moved and carried that the secretary prepare suitable blank forms for application for membership to be used in securing new members.

No new business appearing at this time, the evening was spent in social amusements and reminiscent anecdotes and experiences of the members.

August 11, 1916.

Called to order at 9 A. M. at the home of Mrs. Pierce. It appearing that certain members of the Briggs Association had been charged with sundry acts and delinquencies derogatory to the good reputation of the Association and contrary to the Briggs code of laws, for such cases made and provided, and the complaints having been made in writing in each instance with specification of time and place where the offense was committed, each of the accused were called before a magistrate and proper opportunity given the party to ex-

plain their conduct, and failing in this were declared guilty and a proper sentence, in accordance with the magnitude of the crime, was imposed on the criminal by the court and duly carried out by him, after which the character of the several parties was declared satisfactory to the court.

After which the noon hour having arrived, proceedings were adjourned to 8 P. M.

Evening Session.

Called to order at 8 P. M. at the home of Mrs. Tinkham. At this time a pine cone party was provided and as the cones were burned in the grate each party called on responded with a story or sentiment and much merriment was produced from the witty remarks.

At the close the Committee on Resolutions made its report as follows, viz:

To the Briggs Association, Greeting:

WHEREAS, The fourth reunion, held at Rochester, Vt., August 9 to 11, inclusive, has been attended by quite a large number of the members who have very greatly enjoyed the pleasant and profitable gathering, we realize that much of this pleasure was the result of the efforts of the local members, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the thanks of the Association be and are hereby extended to the resident members and citizens of Rochester for their efforts in our behalf.

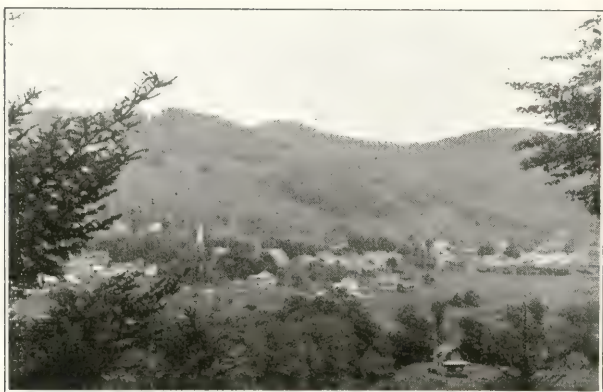
B. B. Dean, Annah E. Dean, Committee.

On motion the same was carried unanimously.

A rising vote of thanks was then given the retiring officers for their efficient service in the interest of the Association, after which, on motion, the Association adjourned sine die.

—Seth Dean, Secretary.





ROCHESTER, VT.

LUCIAN RICHMOND BLACKMER was born in Barnard, Vt., March 6, 1848; died at Webster Groves, Mo., March 28, 1914. He was preeminently a self-made business man, having spent his childhood and youth on a farm. He early learned the great business principle of thoughtfulness and self-reliance, factors that entered largely into his successful business career in later life. His technical education was principally acquired in the public schools of Vermont, supplemented by a short term of bookkeeping at Bryant & Stratton's night school in St. Louis. Believing that the west offered better advantages in a business way than the east, in 1866 he came to St. Louis, which city was his home afterward. He married Elvira Jeannette Richmond at Barnard, Vt., in November, 1883.

EDWARD L. PIERCE was born in Rochester, Vt., July 26, 1843; died in Rochester, Vt., July 14, 1914. He was an only son of Chester and Caroline Briggs Pierce, being a grandson of Ephraim D. Briggs, one of the pioneer citizens of the town of Rochester, and was a life long resident of the town. His education was acquired in the public schools of Rochester, with a short term in New London, N. H., after which he worked as a clerk in the Briggs store in Rochester and later engaged in mercantile business for himself, in which he was very successful. He ever took an active part in the public affairs of Rochester and was liberal in his support of every enterprise that helped the town or promoted a better civilization.

AUGUSTINE WAITE was born in Stowe, Vt., June 24, 1840; died in Miami, Fla. He was educated in the Vermont public schools and later attended Harvard law school, graduating therefrom in 1862, but instead of entering the legal profession he at once engaged in merchandising, in which line he was unusually successful. He was married to Miss Nancy Ainsworth of Macon county, Ill., in 1863. In October, 1876, he permanently settled in Decatur, Ill., entering actively into the business interests of the city. His health failing, he spent considerable time in travel in this and foreign countries and had gone to Florida for the winter, when death came suddenly.

JOSEPHINE BRIGGS CLARK was born in Rochester, Vt., July 25, 1835; died September 10, 1914. She was married January 21, 1864, to Major Albert Clark, a Civil War veteran and prominent in the legislative affairs of the state and nation. Maj. Clark died at Highgate, Vt., July 16, 1912.



GENEALOGICAL NOTES OF THE BRIGGS FAMILY

and Connecting Lines

Compiled by R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt., for the Fourth Reunion of the Briggs Association in America, held at
Barnard, Vt., August 14-15-16, 1913.

My own interest in the Briggs family comes from my grandmother, Joanna Briggs, born March 13, 1787, who married Maj. Lemuel Richmond of Barnard, February 24, 1805, and lived in Barnard, Vt., dying October 16, 1867, at the home of her daughter, Elvira Janette Blackmer, with whom she made her home after the death of her husband, April 16, 1864. I can remember her indistinctly. It was only on special occasions that we boys were allowed to invade the privacy of the big corner room where Grandfather sat in his armed chair, attended by his wife. Grandfather was blind, or nearly so, for some years prior to his death. I can remember one visit I made them which happened to be at the time that Grandfather was having his daily drink; the mug was turned over to me and I was industriously scraping it for the sugar which clung to the bottom when my mother appeared in the room, and I leave it to you to picture the scene. Suffice it to say the remembrance of the event will remain with me always.

Joanna had three brothers, Benjamin, Ephraim Dean, and Asa Barnard, and one sister, Rhoda, and was the daughter of Capt. Ephraim and Rhoda (Whitcomb) Briggs. Capt. Ephraim was born June 30, 1756; married March 19, 1780. Rhoda Whitcomb died August 10, 1829, and is buried in Hannawa Falls, N. Y. Capt. Ephraim obtained his title through service in the militia of Vermont. He was a Revolutionary soldier, serving in Massachusetts, and was either at or near Bunker Hill on the day of the battle. In the war of 1812 he marched to the relief of Plattsburg but I understand did not reach that place in time to take part in the battle. Capt. Ephraim had two sisters, Silva and Eliphah, and was the son of Elijah and Jemima (Dean) Briggs. Elijah was a man with an excellent education for his time, a schoolmaster by profession, living in Berkley, Mass. You have probably seen a copy of his will, which is an interesting document, showing his devotion to his work and to the Congregational church of the orthodox denomination. He was born September 2, 1730; married February 12, 1756 to Jemima Dean, and died May 10, 1795. Elijah Briggs was the eldest child of the three sons and seven daughters of Jonathan and Tabitha (Crane) Briggs; their names were Elijah, Ezra, Keturah, Louis, Cephas, Deborah, Reliance,

Desire, Armittai, Eunice. Jonathan was born October 28, 1707; married according to E. B. Crane's Berkley record, February 20, 1728, and died December 9, 1772. I am unable to tell you the occupation of Jonathan Briggs or anything regarding him further than the names and dates of birth of children. Jonathan Briggs was the son of Thomas and Keturah (Hatch) Briggs. If there were other children of Thomas and Keturah beside Jonathan and his sister Hannah, they do not appear in any record which has come to my attention. I should presume that more will be found. Thomas has a birth given him as 1680, married October, 1702, Keturah Hatch. He was a shoe-maker by trade and was blind for many years before his death. Now in Taunton and vicinity Thomas Briggs' were plenty about this time. The Gen. Reg. for 1884, page 271, says Thomas Briggs was a son of William and had a brother William. Clement Briggs' son Jonathan had a son Thomas, but if this list of Jonathan's children is in order of birth there would be trouble in making dates agree. I am inclined to the belief, however, that our Thomas was the son of Jonathan, who was the son of Clement.

Rhoda (Whitcomb) Briggs was the eldest child of Asa and Joanna (Raymond) Whitcomb, born July 22, 1760; the other children were John, Chapman, Anthony, Asa Barnard, Joanna Benjamin and Philocles. Asa Whitcomb was born in Hardwich, Mass., February 29, 1735-6. and married March 15, 1759, Joanna Raymond. You all know the record of this able and energetic ancestor and I will not take the time to record all his activities, but will with your permission read Mr. Baxter's description of Rhoda Whitcomb which was to have appeared in the never to be published History of Windsor County, by William Porter Baxter. Speaking of her he wrote, "In person she was tall and rather spare, with regular features and a decidedly intellectual cast of countenance, while her large dark luminous eyes and snowy hair combined with her dignified and serious manner, gave the children on first introduction an awesome feeling as of some supernatural person which was soon dispelled by her charm of conversation and friendly manner. Her faith in the final salvation of all mankind was strong and nothing grieved her more than the thought that all whom she loved could not share it. She died at the home of her son, Asa Barnard, whose home was hers after the death of her husband, at Hannawa Falls, N. Y. Asa was the son of Nathaniel and Rosilla (Coombs) Whitcomb, born February 29, 1735-6. He, Asa, had five sisters and three brothers, Joanna, Mary, Dorcas, Nathaniel, Rosilla and John by the same mother, and Lot and Content by a second marriage to Rhoda Blackman. Nathaniel lived in Rochester and Hardwich. He was a cooper by trade and held the offices of Assessor and Select man. He was born August 19, 1697; married Rosilla Coombs January 21, 1722-3; married, second, July 27, 1738. He died March 18, 1771. Nathaniel was the second son of James and Mary (Parker) Whitcomb; born May 26, 1752. He had three brothers and two sisters, James, James, Mary, Joanna, and Robert. James Whitcomb lived in Scituate and

Rochester. He was a "set work" cooper by trade and died June 26, 1728.

James Whitcomb was the son of Robert and Mary (Cudworth) Whitcomb, born 1668. He had two brothers, Israel and Robert, and two sisters, Mary and Elizabeth. Of Robert's marriage to Mary Cudworth we have a record that he was fined because the marriage was performed by the Quaker preacher, Henry Hobson, of Rhode Island, and the ceremony was again performed by a Magistrate in due and legal form March 9, 1660. Robert Whitcomb lived in Scituate; his home was at "The Beeches," which was the home of the family for generations. Robert was the son of John and Frances (——) Whitcomb. John was the emigrant ancestor of this line, born about 1588. He came from Dorchester, Somersetshire, Eng., in 1629-30. Was at Dorchester 1633. Scituate 1640. Lancaster 1654. Beside Robert John had the following children: John, Job, Josiah, Jonathan, Cathrine, Abigail, Mary and James. John Whitcomb died September 24, 1662, aged 74 years.

In the Whitcomb Genealogy (which is a fine book), the line is carried back to the time of Henry IV. 1399, with an occasional "probably," or "perhaps," scattered along through it. Mrs. Morey contributed this line in America long before the Whitcomb book was published and almost no corrections have had to be made in it since the record was made.

Jemima Dean, who married Elijah Briggs February 12, 1756, was the daughter of Ephraim and Mary (Allen) Dean. She had five brothers and one sister, Ephraim, Simeon, Joel, Philip, Mary and Ezra. Some of us have been told that Jemima was not always sweet tempered; her disposition may have been just the stimulus needed to develop the character of Elijah. The record of this family was found in the Vital Records of Rehobeth, and no account was given further than the names.

Ephraim had a second wife, Martha Blackman, but the children were by his first wife. The marriage to Mary Allen was performed by the Rev. David Turner May 7, 1724. Ephraim was the youngest of the six children of Ezra and Bethia (Edson) Dean. The others were Bethia, Ezra, Samuel, Seth and Margaret. Ezra had the distinction of being the second child born in Taunton. He married December 17, 1676-8, Bethia Edson and died about 1732. He was the second child of Walter and Eleanor (Cogan) Dean. The others being Benjamin, Joseph, Lydia, Mary and James. Walter was born between 1615-20 in Chard, Eng. Married his wife there and came first to Dorchester, then to Taunton. Freeman in 1638, Selectman, Representative 1640. Was a tanner by trade and a prominent man in the affairs of Taunton, and the colony. In the purchase of Dighton, which was originally a part of Taunton, from the Indians he had a part, the land was conveyed by the Sachem Philip, to a committee of the associates consisting of Walter Dean, James Walker, John Richmond, and Richard Wilkins. He was also one of the proprietors of the Taunton Iron Works, being associated in this business with James Walker, Thomas Gilbert, Richard Williams,

John Richmond and the Leonards. Walter's father never came to America; his name was William and a copy of his will can be found in N. E. H. & G. Reg. Vol. 51. This William's father was Walter and he lived at South Chard, Eng., dying in 1591. The Deane Record was compiled by Josiah H. Drummond, a distinguished genealogist and for a long time connected with the Genealogical Rooms in Somerset Street, Boston.

Joanna Raymond, the other Grandmother of Joanna Briggs, and from whom our Joanna got her name, was the second child of Benjamin and Mercy (Chapman) Raymond. The others were Benjamin, John, Mercy, Thankful, Mary and Deborah. She was born May 11, 1740. She married March 15, 1759, Asa Whitcomb. Her father, Benjamin, was a cooper by trade and lived in Hardwich and Rochester. He died October 2, 1779, and his wife died May 26, 1806.

Benjamin was the second child of William and Deborah (Balch) Raymond, who were married February 8, 1710. The others were William and Daniel. Shortly after the birth of Daniel, Deborah (Balch) Raymond died and William married Tabitha Edwards and had Paul, Mary, Edward, Deborah, Lemuel, Jonathan, and Lemuel again. William lived in Beverly, Rochester and Wareham. He was a prominent man there and Town Clerk for many years. He was the oldest son of William and Mary (Kettle) Raymond. There was one sister older, Mary, and two brothers, Daniel and Paul, younger. The family made their home in Beverly and William died in 1701. He was the oldest child of Capt. William and Hannah (Bishop) Raymond. Capt. William was born 1637; married twice, first to Hannah Bishop, by whom he had our William, Edward, George, Hannah and Abigail; by his second wife, Ruth Hall, whom he married about 1680, he had Mercy and Ebenezer. Capt. William came to America about 1652, lived at Salem and Beverly, was a soldier in King Philip's War, and at the Naragansett fight, Lieut. Commander of Beverly and Wareham troops 1683, Commander in Canadian Expedition 1690, Representative for Beverly 1685-6. He died June 29, 1709. He was probably born in England and was brother of John of Beverly. His father might have been William, who also came to Massachusetts.

The first Great Grandmother of Joanna Briggs we will place in the record is Tabitha Crane. She was the daughter of Benjamin and Mary (—) Crane, born about 1714, married February 20, 1728, Jonathan Briggs. She had two brothers and one sister, Benjamin, Seth and Mary or Mercy. The diary in my possession kept by Elijah Briggs in 1792 abounds in references to his honored mother. The Crane blood is good and I have no doubt that Tabitha Crane deserved all the affection and respect accorded her by her loyal son. There are a few minor points in the Crane record that should be cleared up to make the line satisfactory but Elery B. Crane, the genealogist of the family, assures me it is correct as given.

Benjamin was the son of Henry and Tabitha (Kinsley) Crane, born 1656. Henry had a second wife married about 1683, named Elizabeth. The children of both marriages were besides Benjamin, Stephen, Henry, John, Elizabeth, Ebenezer, Anna, Mary, Mercy and

Samuel. Henry Crane was in Dorchester 1654, Milton 1667. In the Massachusetts Archives, Vol. XXX, page 239, there is an autograph letter of Henry Crane dated May 7, 1677, well written, good spelling and nicely composed. He bought and sold much land, was Selectman of Milton for several years, member of Rev. Peter Thacher's church; his wife was admitted to same from Braintree 1681. He died in Milton, March 21, 1709, aged about 88 years, which would place his birth in 1621, in England.

Mary Allen, the second Great Grandmother of Joanna Briggs, was born August 22, 1700, in Rehobeth, the daughter of Benjamin and Hopestill (Leonard) Allen. Mary was apparently in no hurry to get married as their intentions, Ephraim Dean and Mary Allen, were published November 11, 1723, and they were married May 7, 1724, about six months later, by the Rev. David Towne. Mary had three brothers and four sisters—Joseph, Jemima, John, Ann, Rachel, David and Martha. The record of this family I get from Vital Records of Rehobeth where Benjamin Allen and Hopestill Leonard were married in November 1695. I can tell you nothing regarding this family further than names and dates, as the Vital Records do not abound in stories.

Benjamin was the son of the Benjamin Allen whose wife's name is not known. He was twin with Hannah, born September 7, 1671, and had another sister Abigail. Benjamin, the father of this family, settled in -----, which was wiped out by the Indians in 1675. The Allens escaped and went to his father's home in Salem, where Benjamin died in 1678.

Benjamin was the son of Walter and Rebecca (—) Allen. Walter lived in Newberg 1640, Charlestown 1652, and owned much land at what was called Watertown farms near the boundary. He married twice, first Rebecca, who was the mother of his children, and second Abigail Rogers. Besides Benjamin he had children John, Daniel, Joseph and Abigail. Walter was born about 1601 and died July 8, 1681, leaving an estate of 3015 pounds. No record of his marriage has been found in America, so presume he was married and had three children before he came to America.

Rosilla Coombs was a most elusive Grandmother and proved a puzzle to all. Mrs. Morey spent much time trying to trace her in the libraries of Chicago. It was by accident that she was located. Being in correspondence with Geo. A. Gardner of New Bedford the subject was mentioned and he was told that Rosilla seemed a very difficult person to find and he was asked to look for her whenever he had the opportunity. He was in Rochester some time after and remembering my question, searched the records, found she was named Rosama, published as Rose and married as Rosilla. She was the daughter of Anthony Coombs; name of mother not known. Anthony had other children, John, Hannah, Johanne, Joshua, Francis and Jane. Tradition says Rosilla was of part French blood. She was born November 23, 1702, and married January 21, 1722-3 Nathaniel Whitcomb. She died March 8, 1737.

Anthony Coombs, the father, was probably the emigrant, as

no further record can be found. He cannot be connected with Francis Coombs of Plymouth, a hope Mrs. Morey often expressed as that would have given you a Mayflower ancestor, Degory Priest.

Mary Chapman, the last Great Grandmother of Joanna Briggs, was the daughter of William and Deborah (—) Chapman. She married Benjamin Raymond and is only a name to me. There is a lot of Chapman matter to look up and it ought not to be difficult to find this family when the opportunity arrives to attend to it.

Keturah Hatch, who married in 1702, Thomas Briggs, was the Gr Gr Grandmother of Joanna. She was the daughter of Thomas Hatch, who married Sarah Ellms of Scituate in 1662. She had four brothers and six sisters—Thomas, Rhodolphus, Joseph, Sarah, Lydia, Hannah, Mary, Margaret, Abigail and Jeremiah. Thomas, the father, died in 1686. He was the son of Thomas Hatch, the emigrant, who settled in Scituate. The Transcript of October 19, 1903, said that this earlier Thomas and William Hatch were brothers, and were reported to have been the sons of Sir Walter Hatch, who suffered the loss of title and estate because of adherence to Puritan principles. Thomas Hatch, the emigrant, had children, William, Thomas, Hannah and Alice. He died early, probably about 1646.

Deane's History of Scituate gives me no account of the Hatch family. Name of wife not known.

Mary, the wife of Benjamin Crane, not known.

Bethia Edson, who married Ezra Deane December 17, 1678, was the daughter of Deacon Samuel and Susannah (Orcutt) Edson. She was the youngest child, born 1653, and had four sisters and three brothers—Susannah, Sarah, Elizabeth, Samuel, Mary, Joseph and Josiah. Samuel Edson came in 1634; was in Salem 1638; Bridgewater 1650; Freeman 1639. On forming the Town of Bridgewater he and Jos. Keith were the only men in the town called Master. Deacon 1664 till death. Built the first mill in Bridgewater. Was member of the War Council of the Colony 1666 to 1678. Representative thirteen years and held many other offices of trust. See Plymouth Colony Records, Vols. 3, 4, 5, 6. He died July 9, 1692, aged 81 years.

Of Hopestill Leonard, who married Benjamin Allen in 1695, there is no further record. The Leonards were a prominent family in Taunton and some day we will have the record. Some years ago there was quite an excitement aroused over a Leonard estate in England which carried a title, but nothing came of it because of the indifference of some most intimately concerned, these men seemingly preferring the independence and honor earned by their own ability in America to inherited honors in England.

Mary Parker married James Whitcomb of Scituate. I have no other record of this lady. Some genealogist to whom I wrote regarding her gave me a line which he said he obtained by the process of elimination. He assumed first that she belonged to the Scituate Parkers, and cutting off those who could not possibly have been her parents, narrowed the choice down to, as he said, our family. Dean's History of Scituate gave the children of this family and no Mary

appears in the list, so we will not attempt to give her ancestry.

The wife of Anthony Coombs I have already told you cannot be found.

Deborah Balch, who married William Raymond February 8, 1710-11, was born June 6, 1693, the daughter of the third marriage of Benjamin Balch, to Grace Mallett; Benjamin married first Sarah Gardner about 1650, and married second Widow Abigail Clark February 5, 1689, and third Grace Mallett March 15, 1691-2; this last marriage ceremony was performed by Simeon Bradstreet, the Governor. She had seven brothers and four sisters— Samuel, Benjamin, John, Joseph, Freeborn, Sarah, Abigail, Ruth, Jonathan, David and Lydia. Benjamin Balch was the oldest child of John Balch and his wife, Margary; the other children of this family were John and Freeborn.

John Balch, born 1577, came from Somersetshire to America with Capt. Robert Gorges, 1623; settled at Salem; one of the original members of first church; Freeman 1631; granted farm of 200 acres at the head of Bass River 1635-6; moved to the farm 1638 and lived there till his death 1648. He had a second wife, Agnes Patch, who survived him, dying in 1657, after a long illness.

No knowledge of the Deborah who married William Chapman, the Gr Gr Gr Grandmother of Joanna Briggs.

Sarah Ellms was the oldest child of Rhodolphus and Cathrine (Whitcomb) Ellms, born September 29, 1645; the other children were Mary, Joanna, Hannah, John, Joseph, Waitstill, Jonathan and Rhodolphus. Sarah married 1662 Thomas Hatch. Rhodolphus Ellms came in the planter 1635, aged 15 years. Was one of the Connhassett partners 1646. He was son of that widow, Sarah Ellms, of Parish St. Saviors, Southwark County, Surrey, Eng., and by her will received a legacy of 10 pounds. The family live in Scituate.

Mary Cudworth, who married Robert Whitcomb, was the oldest daughter of Gen. James Cudworth, born July 23, 1637. The other children were James, Jonathan, Israel, Joanna, Hannah, Jonathan and probably others. James Cudworth held the highest political and military honors of any man in the family. In a literary way a letter of his protesting against the action of the Justice of Plymouth Colony in persecuting the Quakers seem to Steadman and Hutchinson worthy of preservation as a sample of the best composition and thought of the time. You will find this letter in Vol. 1, Library of American Literature.

James Cudworth came to America probably on the Charles, 1632. He held all the ordinary offices and was Captain of his militia company and Justice on the Bench with Thomas Prince (the Governor), Mr. Collins, Capt. Willett, Capt. Winslow, and Mr. John Alden, when trouble came. He could not agree with his associates in restricting religious liberty and was disgraced as far as in their power he could be disgraced. He was thrown from the bench and stripped of his military honors. He went to his farm in Scituate and remained there in practical obscurity for twenty years. Windsor in his history says: "There were a few of the prominent men of the time who dared to protest boldly against the unwise action of the Magistrates and

of such none were more prominent than James Cudworth of Plymouth Colony and Robert Pike of Salisbury." Palfrey's History of New England, Vol. 3, Page 98, says in regard to his restoration that Winslow was a man of less rigid temperament than his predecessors. By his influence James Cudworth, whose tenderness for the Quakers had cost him his high standing in the Colony, was restored to a place among the Magistrates. He was a popular man in those days and honors were continually being thrust upon him. He was made assistant to the Governor 1674; Commander of Plymouth Colony forces in King Philip's war, with the rank of General, 1675; Sub-Commissioner for Plymouth Colony 1678-9; Commissioner 1681; Deputy Governor 1681, and died while on a mission to England for the Colony in 1681. In the mean time he refused some other very flattering offers of political and military preferment. He was a man we can respect all the time. For twenty years he gave up all hope of preferment because of a principle; for twenty years of the best of his life he remained a practical outcast on his farm in Scituate. He had ability, but not the ability to stem the tide of ignorance, intolerance and persecution which swept over New England at that time. His influence must have been felt and he was not forgotten when Winslow and more humane counsels prevailed. Thank God for men like James Cudworth that Plymouth Colony has no such dark page in her annals as you will find in the records of Massachusetts Bay Colony. No men or women were burned or hung or drowned in Plymouth Colony because of witchcraft or any other form of madness. Savage, in a note, says James Cudworth married a daughter of Rev. Dr. Stoughton of England.

Mary Kettle, who married William Raymond about 1687, was born March 5, 1660, the fourth child of John and Elizabeth (Allen) Kettle, who lived in Gloucester and Salem. The other children were John, William, Elizabeth, Samuel and James. John Kettle came in conflict with the authorities on sundry occasions and the record reads that he was "a rather wild lad." A reputation for wildness could be easily acquired in those days and far be it from me to criticise an ancestor because some magistrate fined him for Sabbath breaking in 1641.

The Register for January, 1898, has a short account of one John who spent the last years of his life in Salem, dying there October 12, 1685, owning 300 acres of land near Nashua. A John Kettle served in King Philip's war.

Of Grace Mallett I have no further record.

Cathrine Whitcomb, who married Rhodolphus Ellms, was the Gt. Gt. Gt. Gt. Grandmother of Joanna Briggs, a daughter of John Whitcomb, the emigrant, and sister of Robert Whitcomb, who married Mary Cudworth. This is the first time in this family that I find a marriage of cousins in any degree. Rhoda Whitcomb was the Gr Gr Gr grandchild and Ephraim Briggs the Gr. Gr. Gr. Gr. grandchild of John Whitcomb, so they were fourth or fifth cousins.

Hannah Bishop, born April 12, 1646, who married William Raymond about 1665-6, has an interesting story. She was the second

child of Edward and Hannah Bishop. She lived with her parents in Salem during the time of the Witchcraft delusion. She had two brothers, Samuel and Edward, and one sister, Mary. Her mother died after 1651 and her father married again Bridget Oliver in 1680. Bridget was charged with practicing witchcraft and was imprisoned but in some way escaped further punishment at that time, but in April, 1692, both Edward and Bridget were apprehended and in June 1692, she was hanged. Edward's property was seized at this time but Edward was spared and as the old record says, "after being redeemed he went to Rehobeth, where no witches were thought of." Edward married for a third wife Sarah Wild.

Elizabeth Allen, born September, 1634, third child of William and Elizabeth (Bradley) Allen, had brothers and sisters, Persis, Samuel, Deborah, Bethia, Omsiphorous, William and Jonathan. William came to Cape Ann, now Gloucester, for and with the Merchants Company in 1624, carrying on the fishing business for about three years. He lived in Salem till 1640. He was a carpenter and built the first frame house in Salem, where he resided. Influential and enterprising, he died May 10, 1678. His will may be found First book Essex Probate Records, page 72.



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"The Person Who Is Not Loyal to the Memory of His
Ancestors Deserves Himself to Be Forgotten"

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE

FIFTH REUNION

of the

BRIGGS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

HELD AT BARNARD, VT.
August 10 and 11, 1920



OFFICERS, 1921

President	-	-	Geo. W. Briggs, Lebanon, N. H.
Vice President	-	-	Jessie C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Secretary	-	-	Seth Dean, Glenwood, Ia.
Treasurer	-	-	Arthur Waite, Decatur, Ill.
Historian	-	-	R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.

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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
FIFTH REUNION OF THE BRIGGS ASSOCI-
ATION

Held at Barnard, Vt., August 10 and 11, 1920

The fifth reunion of the Briggs Association in America met at Silver Lake Inn in Barnard, Vermont, on Tuesday, August 10, 1920, on call of the president, the following parties being in attendance, viz:

Seth Dean, Glenwood, Iowa
Mrs. Annah E. Dean, Glenwood, Iowa
Harvey Dean, Pacific Junction, Iowa
Arthur Wait, Decatur, Illinois
Mrs. Arthur Wait, Decatur, Ill.
Mrs. Jessie (Briggs) Tinkham, Rochester, Vermont
Paul C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vermont
Jennie M. Cadwell, Rochester, Vermont
Mrs. Julia A. Pierce, Rochester, Vermont
Mrs. Ellen L. Pierce, Rochester, Vermont
Mrs. George C. Aikens, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
R. L. Richmond, Rochester, Vermont
Mrs. Grace E. Richmond, Rochester, Vermont
Mrs. Dena R. Remington, Rochester, Vermont
Chester H. Remington, Rochester, Vermont
Mrs. Julia Briggs Curtiss, Newark, New Jersey

The President and Vice President both being absent, the meeting was called to order by the Secretary. On motion duly seconded, R. L. Richmond was unanimously elected President Pro Tem, and at once took the chair and presided.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Secretary then read his report as follows, viz:

To Members of the Briggs Association—Greeting:

Soon after the close of the fourth reunion held in Rochester, Vt., in 1916, I had the proceedings of the meeting, together with those of the second and third reunions that had not been gotten out, printed and distributed so that members of the Association might have a record of all meetings held.

Under our by-laws a reunion was due to be held in 1918 but at this time the World War was in progress and the energies of all our members then being used to help the government win out, it was decided by letter ballot taken of the members that it was unwise to hold a meeting at that time and the directors accordingly postponed the meeting till a more auspicious time. The successful ending of the war has removed the excuse for longer delay and the executive committee decided that the best interests of the Association required holding a reunion this year and a letter ballot sent to the members result-

ed in the very general choice of Barnard as the place of meeting both on account of the historic associations as well as being an ideal place for a summer vacation and outing, so "here we are." The secretary greets one and all with the wish and hope that this may be a visit long to be remembered. No formal program has been arranged so the proceedings will be largely informal and every one present is expected to take an active part in making the reunion a success.

Among business matters that may appear I suggest consideration of the following topics, viz:

The matter of publication of genealogical records of the Briggs families in America is of interest to all and can well be considered at this meeting. I am pleased to say that besides the work of our own historian, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Charles H. Briggs of Minneapolis, Minn., has devoted much time and expense in securing information and has many hundred pages of manuscript, covering most or all the known Briggs family lines in this country. This work should be edited and published. Mrs. Silla B. Sampson of Gloversville, N. Y., has also done much work in this line and is now engaged in securing information of the lines of Briggs in Pennsylvania.

All of this work has so far been a labor of love on the part of the compilers and its publication is too expensive to be carried out wholly as a private undertaking. I suggest the appointment of a committee by the chair to consider and report at this meeting such action as will best meet present conditions and the future policy of the association in this matter.

I may at this time suggest that some thought be given to the matter of providing a place for the permanent collection of Briggs heirlooms and relics that have historic value and ought to be preserved, the present owners in some cases not being prepared to provide places for safe keeping will be pleased to either loan or deposit them where they can be on exhibition and preserved for future use and study.

FINANCES: In consequence of the Association hibernating during the war the expenses of the Secretary's office have not been heavy, being only the cost of printing and distributing the proceedings and items for postage for the past four years, amounting in the aggregate to about fifty dollars, all of which has been paid or provided for from funds in hands of the treasurer, whose report will disclose the present state of our finances.

NECROLOGY: Since our fourth reunion Father Time has not been idle but has called, and the following members have responded, viz: Mary A. Briggs died at Rochester, Vt., December 18, 1918; Dr. H. N. Wait died at Johnson, Vt., March 9, 1917; Ida J. Briggs died at Glenwood, Ia., November 10, 1917; Jennie Stiver Briggs, wife of our President, died at Omaha, Neb., September 6, 1919; Lizzie B. Lyman died at White River Junction, Vt., February 8, 1920.

It is the custom of the association that more extended mention be made of these and I recommend that a committee on Necrology be appointed by the chair to prepare proper notes for record.

The only unfinished business from the last meeting is the repair and resetting of the tombstone marking the graves of Elijah Briggs and his sister at Berkley, Mass. This work has not yet been done and consideration should be given it at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

SETH DEAN, Secretary.

The Treasurer then presented his report showing a balance of \$27.84 in the treasury and all bills paid. Inasmuch as the funds on hand had been sufficient for all needs, no dues had been collected since the last reunion.

On motion the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were received and ordered put of record.

The following applications for membership were then presented, viz: Chester H. Remington of Rutland, Vt., Myron L. Aiken of Mont Clair, N. J., and on motion they were elected.

The president then on motion appointed the following special committees, viz:

On nomination of officers to serve for the next two years—Harvey Dean, Mary Aiken, Julia Pierce.

On Necrology—Arthur Wait, Jessie Tinkham, and Seth Dean.

On securing a permanent place for preserving relics, etc—Ellen Pierce, Harvey Dean, Mrs. Richmond.

There being no further business at this time the meeting was adjourned till 10 a. m. tomorrow, after which many of the party visited the Barnard cemetery where many of their relatives are buried.

The evening was pleasantly spent in visiting and recalling anecdotes and reminiscences of former days, with many sallies of wit and mirth.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1920

Call to order by the president at 11 a. m.

The matter of compiling and publishing a genealogy of the Briggs families in America and particularly of the descendants of the immigrant Clement Briggs, was now taken up and after a full discussion by those present, the following was on motion adopted and the secretary instructed to send a copy to Mr. Briggs.

Whereas, Chas. H. Briggs of Minneapolis, Minn., is now engaged in preparing a genealogical history of the descendants of Clement Briggs, believing that this is a meritorious work and should be encouraged with the hope that he may early find it possible to publish his notes in book form, therefore,

Be it Resolved by the Briggs Association now in session at Barnard, Vermont, that we approve of and endorse the work of Charles H. Briggs and recommend it to members of the Briggs family and others who may be interested and to help in securing its early publication we agree to take and pay for one hundred and fifty copies in the name of the Briggs Association.

The committee on permanent archives now made report as follows, which on motion was unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It is well known that there are many articles and me-

mentoes that have belonged to our ancestors and that there is danger of their being lost or passing out of the family, which we would much regret, to provide against this possibility the Mesdames Pierce having offered the use of a section in the Pierce memorial building at Rochester, Vt., where such articles as may be contributed or loaned to the Association may be kept, subject at all times to the control and disposition of the executive committee of the Briggs Association, therefore, to carry out the object and purpose of this undertaking,

Be it Resolved, that the offer of the Mesdames Pierce be and is hereby accepted and the secretary is instructed to inform the membership of this action.

The committee on Necrology at this time made report, which on motion was approved and ordered of record.

The committee on nominations reported the following names for officers of the Association for the next biennial period, viz:

For President, George W. Briggs of Lebanon, N. H.

For Vice President, Jessie C. Tinkham of Rochester, Vt.

For Secretary, Seth Dean of Glenwood, Ia.

For Treasurer, Arthur Wait of Decatur, Ill.

For Historian, R. L. Richmond of Rutland, Vt.

On motion the report was received and the rules then being suspended the parties were unanimously elected by acclamation.

Nothing further of a business nature appearing, the meeting adjourned sine die.

SETH DEAN, Secretary.

NECROLOGY

MARY AMELIA BRIGGS, daughter of Elijah and Helen (Brownell) Briggs, died at Rochester, Vt., December 18, 1918. She was born at Attica, Ind., March 16, 1844, the eldest of three sisters. Soon after the death of her father in 1853 the family removed to Norwalk, Ohio, where the mother died in 1862. With her two orphaned sisters left in her care she engaged in teaching in the public schools of the place, following this occupation for several years; later she became a stenographer, but health failing, she was forced to give up her position in Denver, Colo., and return to the east, living for a time in the family of her uncle, Alexander Briggs, and later with Mrs. P. C. Tinkham at Rochester, Vt., where she took an active part in Christian work and other activities of the place. She was a member of the Universalist church and other civic bodies of Rochester.

JENNIE (STIVER) BRIGGS, daughter of William and Margaret Stiver, died at Omaha, Neb., September 6, 1919. She was born at Stuebenville, O., June 11, 1843, and married to Benjamin W. Briggs at Springfield, Ill., June 4, 1867. With her husband she lived successively at Bloomington, Springfield and Pekin, Ill., moving to Nebraska in 1875, and to their permanent home in Omaha in October, 1883. She was in poor health for some years prior to her death, and is buried beside her two children who had gone before,

in the German M. E. cemetery, South Bend precinct, Cass County, Neb.

IDA J. BRIGGS, daughter of Daniel C. and ----- Briggs, died at Glenwood, Ia., November 10, 1917. She was born near Glenwood, Ia., June 22, 1859, living with her parents on a farm until 1900, when she came to Glenwood, Ia. She was educated in the public schools of her neighborhood and in Tabor College. She was a member of the Congregational church at Glenwood and active in the work of the church and Sabbath school. She was never married.

DR. HERSCHEL NAPOLEON WAIT, son of Daniel and Aliphal (Briggs) Wait, died at Johnson, Vt., March 9, 1917. He was born at Stowe, Vt., February 13, 1850, and married February 18, 1879, at Stowe, Vt., to Adelaide M. Benson. After graduating from a medical course he settled permanently at Johnson, Vt., and entered into active practice, in which he was very successful. He was a member of several medical societies in Vermont and other states and an honored member of the Masonic fraternity and Sons of the American Revolution. He had been in poor health for some time before his death.

LIZZIE BRIGGS LYMAN, daughter of George and Minerva (Briggs) Lyman, died at White River Junction, Vt., February 8, 1920. She was born at Norwich, Vt., April 25, 1846. She had been in poor health for many years but courage and a strong will power sustained her; she led a modest, useful and beautiful Christian life.

SUSAN JANE JONES, daughter of Daniel B. and Aliphal Waite, died at Barre, Vt., September 23, 1920. She was born at Stowe, Vt., April 8, 1836, the second in a family of eight children. She was married to John K. Jones at Stony Point, Vt., July 2, 1855. She led an active life, having been successfully engaged in the millinery business in Barre for a number of years. She was the mother of three children, none of whom survive her. Her husband died November 12, 1882. She was a charter member of the Barre chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and a valued member of the Universalist church. Mrs. Jones had been in poor health for several years, but not confined to her home. In May of the present year she met with an accident that completely disabled and confined her to her room. Death came peacefully and as a tired child she went to sleep, to awaken on the farther shore of Death's River.

Notes of Genealogical Line of Descent from Clement Briggs, an Immigrant, Through Eight Generations.

As secretary of the Briggs Association I have on numerous occasions had inquires from descendants of Briggs ancestors for genealogical information of their ancestors, sometimes to trace family relationship, sometimes the information sought is to enable the applicant to qualify for membership in the Sons or Daughters of the Revo-

lution or Colonial Wars, or other patriotic bodies, and quite a number have suggested that I publish some notes along this line in our minutes. I have hesitated to do this as other parties are preparing very complete records of the Briggs families and expect to publish their work in the near future, and it would not be wise nor just to forestall their work. I believe, however, that a short table showing the direct line of descent for a few generations from Clement Briggs, the immigrant, and founder of one line of Briggs in America, may be opportune at this time and will probably be sufficient to enable many parties who so desire to trace their lineage. I have compared the names and dates herein given with the data heretofore secured from various sources* and believe it reliable, but I realize that in these matters errors are not uncommon, and I will be pleased to receive corrected notes if errors are discovered.

Clement Briggs, the immigrant, was born about 1600 and in 1616 was living, according to his own testimony, in Southwark, England, and was then a felmonger, or dealer in pelts and hides. He came to Plymouth, Mass., in the ship *Fortune*, that brought the second contingent of the Puritan Pilgrims to this country, landing on November 9, 1621. Whether he had accepted the Puritan articles of faith, I do not know, but his name appears in the official list of passengers. He was probably unmarried at this time. He removed to Dorchester in 1627 or 1630, and to Weymouth, Mass., before 1633, and died at Weymouth before October 24, 1650, when his will was proven.

He married first Joan Allen of Dorchester. She either died or left Clement. He married second Elizabeth ----- of Plymouth, about 1639 or 1640; she died about 1691, as her will was proven August 11, 1691.

He had children as follows, viz:

SECOND GENERATION

Clement Briggs; wife, Joan; residence, Weymouth.

2b1—**THOMAS**. Born June 14, 1633, at Weymouth; living at Taunton, Mass., 1668

2b2—**JONATHAN**. Born June 14, 1635, at Weymouth, Mass. Married Experience -----; she died after February 8, 1698 or '99. Died 1688 or '89 at Taunton.

2b3—**DAVID**. Born August 23, 1640, at Weymouth. Married Mary Barber of Southampton, Long Island, October 26, 1676. Died between November 13, 1683, and November 11, 1685.

2b4—**CLEMENT**. Born January 1, 1643 (N. S.). Settled near Taunton, Mass. Married Hannah Packard; she died April 20, 1727. Died November 7, 1669, at Weymouth.

2b5—**JOHN**. Born ----. Settled in Halifax, Mass. Married first Hannah Rocket of Mayham. Married second Hannah Witherell.

* My sources of information have been the published notes of Sam Briggs of Cleveland, O.; manuscript notes furnished by Chas. H. Briggs of Minneapolis, Minn.; Gleanings from a Diary kept by Elijah Briggs (5b21) from about 1750 to 1790; records in family bibles; and by correspondence.

2b6—**REMOND** or **REMEMBER**. Born ----- Lived in Weymouth 1664. Married Mary ----- Died between May 6 and 22, 1696, at Taunton.

(There is a possibility that Clement had another son, Richard, born 1645, who married Rebecca Hoskins 1662; also a daughter, Elizabeth, who married Elkanah Babbitt, 1689.)

THIRD GENERATION

Jonathan Briggs (2b2); wife, Experience; residence, Taunton.

3b7—**JONATHAN**. Born March 15, 1668. Lived in Taunton. Married 1689.

3b8—**DAVID**. Born December 6, 1669, at Taunton, Mass. Died March 6, 1756.

3b9—**JOHN**. Born ----- Died March 18, 1764.

3b10—**THOMAS**. Born March, 1680, probably in Berkeley, Mass. Married first Keturrah Hatch, October 1 or 11, 1702, of Situate, Mass. Married second Sarah Read, before 1755, of Dighton. Died June 13, 1767, at Dighton, Mass.

3b11—**AMOS**.

3b12—**BENJAMIN**. Born ----- Will proven 1744.

3b13—**EBENEZER**. Born ----- Will proven 1726.

3b14—**NATHANIEL**.

3b15—**EXPERIENCE**. Married ----- Merrick.

3b16—**HOPESTILL**. Married ----- Harvey.

FOURTH GENERATION

Thomas Briggs (3b10); wife, Keturrah; residence, Berkeley.

4b17—**SETH**. Born ---- Married Ann Whitmarsh September 22, 1726. Residence, Berkeley or Dighton, Mass.

4b18—**JONATHAN**. Born October 28, 1707. Married Tabitha Crane February 20, 1729. Died December 9, 1772.

4b19—**HANNAH**. Born 1710. Married ----- Baker. Died August 29, 1738, at Dighton, Mass.

4b20—**KETURRAH**. Born ----- Married ----- Goff.

FIFTH GENERATION

Jonathan Briggs (4b18); wife, Tabitha; residence, Berkeley, Mass.

5b21—**ELIJAH**. Born September 2, 1730. Married Jemima Dean February 12, 1756, of Freetown, Mass. Died May 10, 1795. Massachusetts Revolutionary War Records say Elijah Briggs of Berkeley, private in Capt. James Nichols' company, Col. John Daggets regiment, served three months; also enlisted in Capt. Daniel Drake's Company, Col. Luke Drury's regiment, served three months and fourteen days.

5b22—**EZRA**. Born February 15, 1733. Died November 13, 1824.

5b23—**KETURRAH**. Born May 26, 1735. Married Ambrose Cleveland of Freetown, Mass. Died October 14, 1784.

5b24—**DEBORAH**. Born January 25, 1738. Died November 18, 1742.

5b25—**LOIS**. Born April 30, 1741. Married ----- Edmister. Died January 18, 1783.

5b26—**CEPHAS**. Born August 26, 1742. Sailed for West Indies in 1771 and never returned.

5b27—**DEBORAH**. Born February 10, 1745. Married ----- Hatch.
Died March 23, 1777.

5b28—**RELIANCE**. Born May 23, 1747. Died April 26, 1774.

5b29—**DESIRE**. Born January 25, 1750.

5b30—**AMITTAI**. Born June 13, 1753.

5b31—**EUNICE**. Born January 28, 1756. Died June 24, 1757.

SIXTH GENERATION

Elijah Briggs (5b21); wife, Jemima; residence, Berkeley.

6b32—**EPHRAIM**. Born June 30, 1756, at Taunton, Mass. Married Rhoda Whitcomb March 19, 1780, at Barnard, Vt. Died August 10, 1829, at Barnard, Vt. Massachusetts Revolutionary War Records say Ephraim Briggs enlisted May 2, 1775, private in Capt. Oliver Soper's company, Col. Timothy Walker's regiment from Taunton; served 3 months and 6 days and served second in Capt. Joshua Wilbore's company, Col. John Hathaway's regiment, service in Rhode Island. Third, April, 1777, served in Capt. Ebenezer Dean's company, Col. Thos. Carpenter's regiment.

War 1812 Vermont Records show that Capt. Ephraim Briggs served in Col. J. William's regiment on detached service from December, 1812, to May, 1814, probably in the Plattsburg, N. Y., campaign.

6b33—**SYLVIA**. Born December 19, 1758. Married David Allen of Woodstock, Vt.

6b34—**ELIPHAL**. Born July 28, 1767. Married Uriah Carpenter of Ashford, Conn.

SEVENTH GENERATION

Ephraim Briggs (6b32); wife, Rhoda; residence, Barnard, Vt.

7b35—**BENJAMIN**. Born July 6, 1780, at Barnard, Vt. Married Susannah Crowell November 30, 1809, at Barnard. Removed from Barnard, Vt., to Norwich, Huron county, O., May, 1836. Died August 31, 1842, at Norwich, Huron County, O.

7b36—**EPHRAIM DEAN**. Born December 21, 1782, at Barnard, Vt. Married Eliza Hodgkins October 4, 1810, at Rochester. Died July 27, 1868, at Rochester, Vt.

7b37—**ASA BARNARD**. Born January 18, 1785, at Barnard, Vt. Married Jane Winslow September 2, 1809, at Barnard, Vt. Removed to Pierpont, N. Y., February, 1820. Died September 5, 1863, at Pierpont, N. Y. Was a private in Capt. Phelps's company, Col. J. Williams regiment, Vermont militia, War 1812.

7b38—**JOANNA**. Born March 13, 1787, at Barnard, Vt. Married Maj. Lemuel Richmond February 24, 1805, at Barnard. Died October 16, 1867, at Barnard, Vt.

7b39—**RHODA**. Born November 17, 1793, at Barnard, Vt. Married John Caryl at Barnard, Vt. Died April 23, 1817, at Stockbridge, Vt.

EIGHTH GENERATION

Benjamin Briggs (7b35); wife, Susannah; residence, Barnard, Vt.

- 8b40—**ELIJAH**. Born September 24, 1810, at Barnard, Vt. Married Helen M. Brownell October 1, 1839; died December 15, 1862. Died January 31, 1853, at Attica, Ind.
- 8b41—**ALIPHAL**. Born October 9, 1812, at Barnard, Vt. Married Daniel Wait, Jr., January 16, 1833. Died June 16, 1888, at Stowe, Vt.
- 8b42—**BENJAMIN CROWELL**. Born January 11, 1815, at Barnard, Vt. Moved to Norwich, O., May, 1836, and to Seneca, Kan., October, 1873. Married Clarissa Brown November 9, 1838. Died March 12, 1895, at Topeka, Kan.
- 8b43—**ALEXANDER**. Born February 5, 1818, at Barnard, Vt. Removed to Norwich, O., May, 1836, later to Rochester, Vt. Married first Rosella M. Doten November 3, 1846; died February 3, 1848. Married second Phebe A. Curtis November 15, 1853, at Ithica, N. Y. Died April 5, 1908, at Rochester, Vt.
- 8b44—**SUSAN**. Born April 11, 1822, at Barnard, Vt. Married William E. Dean August 15, 1849, at Norwich, O. Died March 31, 1872, in Lyons Township, Mills County, Iowa.
- 8b45—**ELIZA JANE**. Born October 2, 1828, at Barnard, Vt. Married William E. Dean November 4, 1875, at Norwich, O. Died December 26, 1892, in Lyons Township, Mills County, Iowa.

"The Person Who Is Not Loyal to the Memory of His
Ancestors Deserves Himself to Be Forgotten"

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE

SIXTH REUNION

of the

BRIGGS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

HELD AT ROCHESTER, VT.

August 8, 9, 10, 1922



OFFICERS, 1923

President	-	-	Geo. W. Briggs, Lebanon, N. H.
Vice President	-	-	Jessie C. Tinkham, Rochester, Vt.
Secretary	-	-	Seth Dean, Glenwood, Iowa
Treasurer	-	-	Arthur Wait, Decatur, Ill.
Historian	-	-	R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.

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THE GREAT CLIFF OF MOUNT HORRID

GIFT
ASSOCIATION
MAR 24 1900

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE SIXTH BIENNIAL REUNION

Held at Rochester, Vermont, August 8, 9, 10, 1922

The following members of the Briggs Association met in the sixth biennial reunion in the Pierce Hall at Rochester, Vermont, on Tuesday, August 8, 1922, and were called to order at 2 p. m. by Geo. W. Briggs of Lebanon, N. H., president, in the chair, the following being in attendance, viz:

Jessie C. Tinkham of Rochester, Vt.	Vice President
Seth Dean of Glenwood, Ia.	Secretary
Arthur Wait of Decatur, Ill.	Treasurer
R. L. Richmond of Rutland, Vt.	Historian
Grace E. Richmond	Rutland, Vt.
Theodore R. Remington	Rutland, Vt.
Dena R. Remington	Rutland, Vt.
Julia Briggs Curtiss	Newark, N. J.
Mabel J. Curtiss	Newark, N. J.
William A. Wait	Decatur, Ill.
Mrs. Arthur Wait	Decatur, Ill.
Erma A. Wait	Decatur, Ill.
Franklin A. Wait	Decatur, Ill.
Margaret C. Wait	Decatur, Ill.
Hattie E. Wait	Barre, Vt.
Grace M. Wait	Barre, Vt.
Harvey Dean	Pacific Junction, Ia.
Benj. B. Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
Mary W. Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
Florence Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
Clara Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
A. E. Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
Sadie Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
Annah E. Dean	Glenwood, Ia.
P. C. Tinkham	Rochester, Vt.
W. N. Remington	Rutland, Vt.
Mary J. Aiken	Philadelphia, Pa.
Ellen L. Pierce	Rochester, Vt.
Julia A. Pierce	Rochester, Vt.
Caroline W. Berry	Rochester, Vt.
Elizabeth Berry	Rochester, Vt.
Richmond Aiken Berry	Rochester, Vt.
Miss Theodore Connard	Decatur, Ill. (Visitor)

Rev. C. C. Connor, pastor of the Congregational church of Rochester, in fitting words, then invoked the Divine blessing on the meeting, after which all joined in the National song, "America"

The president then in well chosen words stated the purposes of



Front Row Sitting: A. E. Dean, P. C. Tinkham, Seth Dean, B. B. Dean, Harvey Dean.
 Second Row Sitting: Julia Pierce, Mabel Curtis, Mrs. Richmond, Mrs. Curtis.
 First Row Standing: Ellen Pierce, Mrs. P. C. Tinkham, Mrs. A. E. Dean, Hattie Wait,
 A. Wait, Mrs. A. Wait.
 Back Row: G. W. Briggs, Mrs. Seth Dean, Clara Dean, Miss Wait, Mrs. Aiken, Florence
 Dean, Mrs. Berry, R. L. Richmond.

the meeting and the ideals for which the Association is formed and for which it stands.

Letters from absent members expressing regrets that they could not attend and wishing success on the meeting were read by the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting were on call of a member read and on motion approved.

The Secretary then read his paper, showing four deaths.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

To members of the Briggs Association in America:

Greeting: The Secretary has little of especial interest to report of business that has passed through the office since our last meeting. Soon after our adjournment I published and mailed to the members a report of our proceedings, including therein some genealogical notes of our ancestry. From replies received I conclude that this feature proved satisfactory and in the event that a complete genealogical record is not published in the near future, possibly might be continued with profit to the association in general. The increase in membership has not been rapid, possibly largely the fault of the Secretary in not advertising the merits of the organization more extensively at and since our last meeting. At present our membership is confined to thirteen states and the District of Columbia.

Since our last meeting we have lost four members by death, viz:
Mary Loveland Briggs -----At Tampa, Fla., June 30, 1921
Rhoda Briggs Burt -----At East Pierpont, N. Y., August 11, 1921
Jennie Briggs Packard -----At Bloomington, Ill., April 11, 1922
Mary Augusta Perkins -----At Barnard, Vt., January 2, 1922

The last three especially will be missed from our reunions as they were loyal members who rarely failed to attend. I suggest that the usual Committee on Necrology be appointed to report suitable resolutions of remembrance of these, with other deceased members if any are known, since the fifth reunion.

The only expense incurred by me is an item of \$35.00 for printing the proceedings and about \$5.00 for postage and stationery. The printing bill was paid by an order on the Treasurer. There are no outstanding bills or unpaid claims against the Association that I am aware of.

No general program has been prepared for this reunion and the proceedings will be very largely informal, wherein it is expected that every one will feel free to take part, socially and intellectually, and help make the sessions interesting and pleasant for all.

Respectfully submitted,

SETH DEAN, Secretary.

Rochester, Vt., August 8, 1922.

The Treasurer then read his report showing the expense for the last biennial period to have been \$40.00.

The reports were then on motion approved, and as there was a small deficit in the treasury it was moved, seconded and passed that

an assessment of \$1.00 per member be levied to meet current expenses.

On motion the President then appointed the following committees, viz: On Necrology—Arthur Wait, Jessie Tinkham, Seth Dean; on Nominations—Paul Tinkham, R. L. Richmond, B. B. Dean; on Resolutions—A. E. Dean, Mrs. Hattie Wait, Mary J. Aiken

The following names were then presented for membership in the Association, viz: Alvin E. Dean of Glenwood, Ia.; Sadie Dean of Glenwood, Ia.; Florence Dean of Council Bluffs, Ia.; Bessie Dean of Council Bluffs, Ia.; Clara Dean of Glenwood, Ia.; Mrs. Kate K. Briggs of Washington, D. C., all of whom were on motion elected to membership.

The remainder of this session was devoted to recounting the personal experience of members, and detailing incidents of adventures of our ancestors, pioneers in both Massachusetts and Vermont, as well as in states farther west, after which the Association adjourned to meet at 8 p. m. at the residence of the Messrs. Pierce.

EVENING SESSION

The members of the Association met in an informal session at 8 p. m. at the Pierce residence and spent the evening in social visit.

Adjourned to 2 p. m. August 9.

AUGUST 9, 1922

An excursion to the top of Mt. Cushman having been arranged for, a goodly number of the visiting members took the opportunity to make the trip. All who did so expressed themselves as well paid for the effort.

The Association was called to order by the President at 2 p. m. in the Pierce Hall.

The Committee on Necrology now made report, which on motion was approved and ordered of record.

The Committee on Nominations then reported the following names, viz:

For President	Geo. W. Briggs of Lebanon, N. H.
For Vice President	Jessie C. Tinkham of Rochester, Vt.
For Secretary	Seth Dean of Glenwood, Ia.
For Treasurer	Arthur Wait of Decatur, Ill.
For Historian	R. L. Richmond of Rutland, Vt.

No other nominations appearing, the rules were suspended and the above list elected by acclamation.

The Committee on Resolutions then made the following report, viz:

Whereas, The members of the Briggs Association have been in their biennial session at Rochester, Vt., on August 8 and 9, 1922, and the success of the meeting has in very great measure been due to the resident members and interested citizens of Rochester, therefore,

Be it Resolved, That the thanks of the Briggs Association be extended to the Mesdames Pierce for the use of their Memorial Hall for our sessions; to Rev. and Mrs. Connor for their presence with us, and to citizens of Rochester for favors shown, all of which have helped make the Sixth Reunion a success.

On motion the resolution was adopted, after which the meeting adjourned sine die.

SETH DEAN, Secretary

NECROLOGY

MARY LOVELAND BRIGGS, daughter of Austin and Nancy (Lockwood) Loveland, died at Tampa, Fla., June 30, 1921. She was born in Perkins Township, Erie county, Ohio, April 23, 1840, and was married to Ephraim Briggs October 8, 1865. They made their home on a farm in Norwich Township, Huron county, Ohio, until 1873, when with her husband they removed to a farm near Seneca, Kansas, living there some years, afterward removing to Topeka, Kan., and in the fall of 1920 to Tampa Fla. She had been in poor health for several months prior to her death.

RHODA SOPHIA BRIGGS BURT, daughter and eldest of two children of Asa W. and Matilda (Willson) Briggs, died at Potsdam, N. Y., August 11, 1921, of paralysis. She was born at East Pierpont (now Hannawa Falls), N. Y., October 7, 1840, and was married to William Burt February 10, 1875, residing on a farm that has been the home of the Briggs family for near one hundred years.

SOPHRONIA JANE BRIGGS PACKARD, only daughter of Flavius Josephus and Sophronia (Willson) Briggs, died at Bloomington, Ill., of chronic bronchitis April 11, 1922. She was born at East Pierpont, N. Y., August 3, 1837, and was married to Thaddeus Bullock Packard September 23, 1860, at Bloomington, Ill., where they resided until the death of her husband August 27, 1910, after which time failing health compelled her to spend the winter seasons in the south.

MARY AUGUSTA PERKINS, daughter of Daniel and Rhoda (Richmond) Aiken, died at Barnard, Vt., January 2, 1922. She was born at Barnard Vt., May 27, 1844, being one of four children. She was married August 9, 1869, to Harry H. Perkins of Barnard, Vt., where the family have resided most of the time during the intervening years.

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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
SEVENTH REUNION

OF THE
BRIGGS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

HELD AT GLENWOOD, IA.
Sept. 9, 10, 11, 1924



OFFICERS, 1925-26

President	- - -	Geo. W. Briggs, Lebanon, N. H.
Vice President	- -	Winfield S. Briggs, Omaha, Nebr.
Secretary	- - -	Henry H. Dean, Glenwood, Iowa.
Treasurer	- - -	Arthur Wait, Decatur, Ill.
Historian	- - - -	R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.

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OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
SEVENTH REUNION

OF THE
BRIGGS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA

HELD AT GLENWOOD, IA.
Sept. 9, 10, 11, 1924



OFFICERS, 1925-26

President	- - - -	Geo. W. Briggs, Lebanon, N. H.
Vice President	- -	Winfield S. Briggs, Omaha, Nebr.
Secretary	- - -	Henry H. Dean, Glenwood, Iowa.
Treasurer	- - - -	Arthur Wait, Decatur, Ill.
Historian	- - - -	R. L. Richmond, Rutland, Vt.

The members were called to order by the president at 2:00 p. m. The report of the secretary was then read.

REPORT OF SECRETARY

To the Executive Committee and Members
of the Briggs Association in America.

Greeting: I make the following report of the business that has been handled through this office since the meeting in 1922.

As soon as the notes of the sixth reunion had been put in shape for publication I contracted with the publisher of the Mills County Tribune for 300 copies, the work was done to my satisfaction and in good time and copies mailed to all members. The cost of this work was \$35.00 which was paid by the treasurer on an order from me.

I regret to state that the increase in membership has not been great during the season just past, mainly I presume from a lack of energy on the part of the secretary in not carrying on a more vigorous campaign for members.

I have had considerable correspondence with members as well as other Briggs parties, some inquiring about becoming members, but more generally asking for genealogical lineage to enable the party to secure membership in some of the revolutionary societies. In several of these cases I was able to furnish from our records the information sought.

It is generally known by members that Mr. Charles H. Briggs of Minneapolis has been engaged for several years in securing notes for and preparing to publish a Briggs book giving as far as possible the genealogical line of descent of all parties named Briggs residing in America, together with inter marriage for one or possibly two generations. This will certainly be a worth while work. A letter I will read at this meeting gives the present status of the work and an estimate of the cost of editing and typewriting the notes. I believe it would be worth while for the association to assume the expense he estimates in getting the matter in typewritten form, a copy to be furnished the secretary of the association for information of the members, pending publication of the work.

The expense of the office has been:

For printing proceedings	\$35.00
Expended for postage and stationery	5.00
Printing program	5.00
Total	\$45.00
Received from treasurer	\$35.00
Balance due secretary	10.00
Total	\$45.00

Respectfully submitted,

SETH DEAN,
Secretary.

The report of the treasurer was then read by the secretary, Mr. Wait being absent.

To the Members of the Briggs Association:

Greeting:

I herewith submit the treasurer's report covering the last two year period:

August 8, 1922 overdraft	\$12.16
August 8, 1922 dues collected	34.00
Balance on hand August 8, 1922	21.84
To printing and mailing report of last meeting March 3, 1923	30.99
Overdraft	9.15

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR WAIT.

On motion the reports of the secretary and treasurer were approved and ordered put on record.

The historian R. L. Richmond being absent no report was had on Briggs Genealogy.

At this time a letter from Chas. H. Briggs of Minneapolis, Minn., who has been engaged for some years in collecting historical and genealogical matter for a Briggs book was read; this showed that much work had been done but that considerable time and editorial work was yet required to put it in proper form for publishing and that it was uncertain when the book would appear.

The president at this time appointed the following committees, viz: On Necrology—Carolyn B. Field. On Nominations—Harvey Dean, Anna E. Dean, Mary W. Dean. On Resolutions—Julia A. Pierce, Ellen L. Pierce.

After which adjournment was had to 7 p. m. to permit an auto drive to the Dean farm in Lyons township. Quite a number making the trip. Most of the Omaha members took the train for their homes.

SEPTEMBER 9, EVENING SESSION

This was a social get together of the members and their friends at the residence of Seth Dean. The evening was pleasantly passed in games and reminiscences of the olden time. At this time Seth Dean read a paper entitled "Woman Pioneering."

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 MORNING SESSION

Was called to order by the vice president. At this time, the following named parties having applied for membership and being eligible were on motion, duly seconded formally elected viz: Winifield S. Briggs, Omaha, Nebr.; Mrs. W. S. Briggs, Omaha, Nebr.; Wm. L. Dean, Plainview, Nebr.; Ray M. Wiles, Plattsmouth, Nebr.; Mrs. Edith Wiles, Plattsmouth, Nebr.; Mrs. Nellie P. Self, Fremont, Nebr.; Wendell E. Lambert, Glenwood, Iowa; Mrs. Lucile Lambert, Glenwood, Iowa; Mrs. Grace Keebaugh, St. Louis, Mo.; Fred P. Stone, Barre, Vt.

The nominating committee then made its report recommending the election of the following parties as officers for 1925-26, viz:

For PresidentGeo. W. Briggs of Lebanon, N. H.
For Vice President Winifield S. Briggs, of Omaha, Nebr.
For Secretary Henry H. Dean of Glenwood, Iowa.
For Treasurer Arthur Wait of Decatur, Ill.
For Historian R. L. Richmond of Rutland, Vt.

There being no other nominations proposed, the report was accepted, and on motion the rules for a formal ballot suspended and the above named parties were elected by acclamation. The committee on necrology at this time made report as follows, viz:

To the Members of the Briggs Association:

Your committee find the following named members have passed away since our last reunion, viz:
Mrs. Grace Richmond, wife of R. L. Richmond
Dr. Edward F. Jones of Indianapolis, Ind.
Carl W. Jones, of Woolcott, Vt.

We recommend that appropriate mention be made of each in the published proceedings of this association.

CAROLYN B. FIELD,
HATTIE E. WAITE,
Committee.

An adjournment of further business for the day was now made to take part in a picnic dinner prepared by the Glenwood lady members, in which event all present did ample justice.

After the dinner program, an auto drive to Council Bluffs was arranged to attend the theatre then showing scenes in the life of Abraham Lincoln. This completed the work of the day.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 MORNING SESSION

The members at this time accepted an invitation from Dr. Mogridge, the superintendent to visit the institution for the care and training of feeble minded children of the State of Iowa located at Glenwood. Here the forenoon was pleasantly and profitably spent in inspecting the methods used in school work, as well as the plans and methods adopted by the state board and the superintendent to maintain proper sanitation and health conditions for about sixteen hundred of these unfortunate. On return to the hall, the committee on resolutions made its report as follows, viz:

Your Committee Call Attention
to the disinterested efforts of the various committees. The citizens and newspapers of the town and the many friends who have united their efforts to make this reunion of the Briggs Association both a success and a pleasant memory to all who have attended its sessions.
THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Briggs Association now in session, that we fully appreciate the kindness of the officers of the First Baptist church of Glenwood for the use of the church parlors for our

meeting, and to the pastor, Dr. Wm. L. Schoemaker and his wife for their presence with us, and to the ladies of the reception committee for the entertainment prepared by them.

To the Glenwood Opinion and Mills County Tribune for valuable mention of this meeting, and to Dr. Morrledge and his able assistants for the privilege of a worth while and instructive visit to the state institution, and that the thanks of the Briggs Association is hereby extended to each and all for these courtesies.

B. B. DEAN,
ELLEN L. PIERCE,
JULIA A. PIERCE,
Committee.

On motion duly seconded the report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

This concluding the matters of business, the meeting adjourned sine die.

JESSIE C. TINKHAM,
Vice President.
SETH DEAN,
Secretary.

Prior to this time by an adjustment of claims by Connecticut against the federal government for losses of property by her citizens during the War of 1812, a tract of land was given Connecticut in northern Ohio in settlement of her claim. These lands were called fire lands and the tract was known as the Connecticut Reserve.

Stories of the generally level character, great fertility and cheap price of these lands brought an influx of settlers in a short time of whom a large proportion were from New England. The Travelers Guide and Emigrant Directory through the states of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan, published in 1826 by Phelps and Squire of New York, furnishes among other matter, the following information, "These four states hold out great inducements to emigrants, not only for the cheapness and fertility of the land, but for the salubrity of the climate, and the easy means of getting a comfortable subsistence; the public lands may be bought for \$1.25 per acre, only for cash, and vast quantities of it are of the finest quality, many partially cultivated farms may be bought from \$3 to \$12 per acre, according to improvements made, and the value of buildings on them."

The same authority gives the following as the price of passage along the principal route of travel to the west in that day, viz

		For those who travel in the steamboat and in the cabin of the Canal boats and the found by the owners.
For those who travel in barges and in the steerage of Canal boats and find themselves		
From New York to Albany by steamboat	\$1.00	\$2.00
From Albany to Utica	1.63	2.75
From Albany to Rochester	4.00	6.75
From Albany to Buffalo	5.50	10.00
From Albany to Cleveland	8.00	15.00
From Albany to Sandusky	8.50	16.00
From Albany to Chicago by railroad and Eagle line steam Buffalo and Chicago	13.50	26.00

This moving spirit took hold of Benjamin Briggs. He sold the Vermont farm and with his entire family (excepting the two oldest) left the Green Mountain state in May, 1836, for Huron County, Ohio, where a brother-in-law had preceded him.

In the sale of the Vermont farm, Benjamin Briggs from necessity disposed of most of his personal property. In preparing for his then long trip to the western frontier he found it necessary to limit the personal effects and merchandise to the smallest quantity possible, depending on the natural resources of the new country and his own inventive genius to supply what was lacking in the new home. Considered in the light of modern methods and route of travel this trip was in many ways, notable—as the writer understands the route. The family crossed the mountain to Rutland and then to White Hall, in New York state. This portion of the journey was made by team, Mr. Briggs old neighbors volunteering to carry the family that far. At this point they took a boat on the canal then connecting Lake Champlain with Hudson river. At Albany our party transferred to the then newly completed Erie Canal for Buffalo. Then by boat on the Great Lakes Huron and Erie to Sandusky, Ohio.

A sister of Mrs. Briggs residing near Norwalk then a hamlet only, provided a temporary resting place until Benjamin and sons found a permanent home of their own. This was secured by the purchase of two 100 acres lots of land in the Connecticut reserve, this they at once took possession of, built a log house and began clearing the land which was then covered by a dense forest of heavy timber, oak and other kinds that had to be removed before it could be put in cultivation, very little of the timber when cut was made use of, further than to furnish a supply of split rails for fencing and for the first dwellings. The slashings as the cut over lands were called, was then burned over to get rid of the fallen timber and brush.

In clearing the forest the men took the brunt of the work—but in planting and raising the crop the women took an active part also, at this time Susan was just past 14 years of age.

In 1842 when 18 years of age the desire to see the green hills of Vermont again, induced Susan to visit her eldest sister then residing at Stowe. After some months, the call of the west came again to her and she returned to her fathers home in Ohio. Of the route she traveled on this occasion and the incidents that happened on the trip we have very scant knowledge. It is probable the lake steamer and the Erie Canal boat with the usual stage trip over the mountain from Rutland was taken.

The years 1832 and 33 were rather exciting in a religious way being the advent of the Mormon prophet Joseph Smith. Starting his campaign for converts at Kirtland, Ohio, his activities took in Huron County and quite a following was secured among the otherwise steady going families of that part of the state. Several of the immediate neighbors of the Briggs family, sold their lands and moved first to Nauvoo, Ill., the then promised Zion. Hostilities between the civil authorities and the Mormon Hierarchy culminating in the murder of Joseph Smith and his brother Hiram at the hands of a mob caused the Mormons to evacuate Nauvoo and commence their migration to their later home at Salt Lake, Utah.

I make this digression from the main story as it brings in and explains the presence of some old Ohio neighbors, at a later home in Mills County, Iowa, where mutual confidence and experience, later helped to combat homesickness and the lonely blue feelings that would come and were a part of the experience in making a home on the western border of civilization.

It was in the spring or early summer of 1847 that an event came into the social life of the Briggs family. William E. Dean, a Barnard boy, born on a farm almost adjoining the Briggs farm decided to visit the Briggs family.

A mutual love came into Susan and William's lives and resulted in their marriage August 15, 1849. It is natural to believe that two as prudent parties as these made plans for home building before marriage. As neither had wealth and did not think of following an avocation but farming they looked for some place where land was cheap, where the soil and climate was good and where the then blight of human slavery could not come. Even at this early day, some talk of a railroad from the settled eastern states across the plains and mountains to California was in the newspapers and was being discussed in a limited way in congress. Mr. Dean thought he could see the probability of the railroad being built, and a study of the geography of the plains showed the great Platte river for 600

miles west an ideal condition toward railroad building. The Indian title to all Iowa land having been extinguished in 1848 settlers could at that time select land, enter thereon and improve it with the assurance that when open for sale by the government they would have first chance to buy at a fixed, uniform price per acre, and the Missouri river on which steamboats were then making regular trips with merchandise and other freight from St. Louis to points in the Indian country settled the question of location. The bridal couple leaving the brother's home the evening after the wedding ceremony was over, going by railroad to Cincinnati, then by steamboat to St. Louis, changing there for a Missouri river boat that was bound for Kanesville, now Council Bluffs. Steamboating on the Missouri river in those days was not without thrills. August and September were months when low water in the river always occurred, and frequent changes of channel, with sunken logs and sawyers, made navigation somewhat uncertain, but no serious mishap occurred on the trip and the couple left the boat at Civil Bend, a landing in Iowa near where Nebraska City is now located. Here the groom left his bride with friends they had met on the boat, while he went forth to seek a temporary home, until they should find what they wanted. The second days wandering brought Mr. Dean to Cutlers Camp, a Mormon settlement on Silver Creek about two miles north of where the town of Malvern now appears. And at this village he found the Sheppardson family, old neighbors of the Briggs family in Ohio. This fortunate meeting ended further search.

A Mormon claim, with log house and few acres of broken land, was purchased and the wife brought to commence housekeeping, according to the usual method of that day.

Having selected a tract of land at the base of the Missouri river bluffs in what is now Lyons township, Mills county, for a permanent home, here a log house was built, prairie sod broken and a home made in the spring of 1850 that has been continuously in the Dean family for seventy-four years.

At the time this house was built but one other dwelling was visible. Notwithstanding the range of vision extended from one-half mile to ten miles in different directions. The nearest postoffice twenty miles. Letter postage was ten cents and was paid by the party receiving the letter. The time required to carry the letter from Northern Ohio to Austin, Mo., or Kanesville (now Council Bluffs) the two nearest post offices in 1849 was from seven to ten days and the nearest mill was about the same distance.

What is now the great state of Nebraska was then Indian Territory and visits from members of the Pottawattamie, Pawnee and Otoe Indian tribes were frequent. These Indians were all friendly and seldom made trouble but all were great beggars and sometimes thieves. Susan soon learned enough Indian talk to tell them to Puc-a-heck, after they had visited a sufficient length of time.

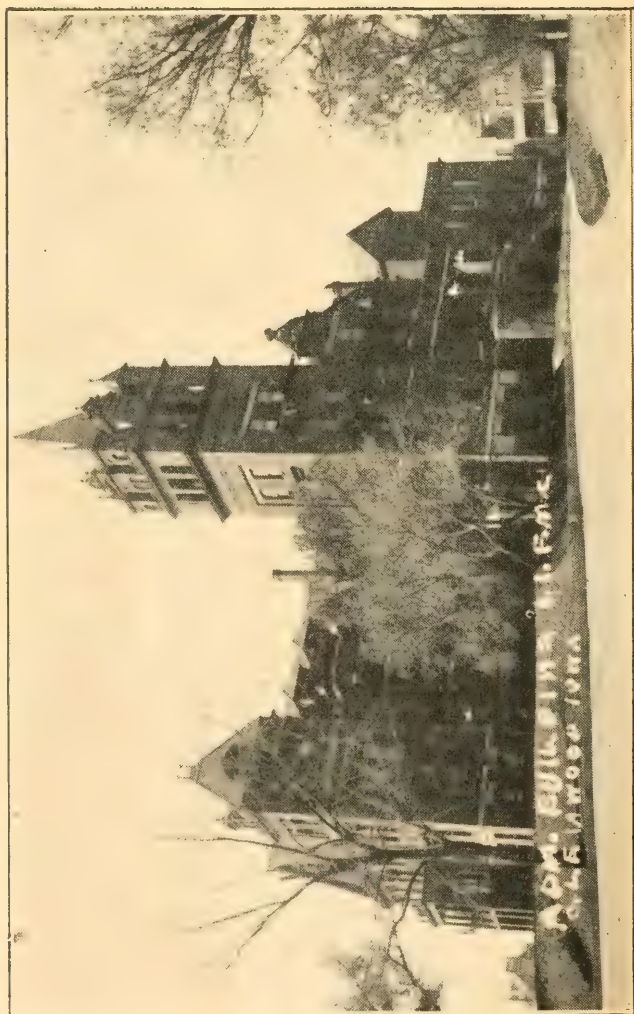
Thirteen memorable years passed before Susan visited her relatives who were still living in Ohio. During this period six sons were born but no daughters blessed the home.

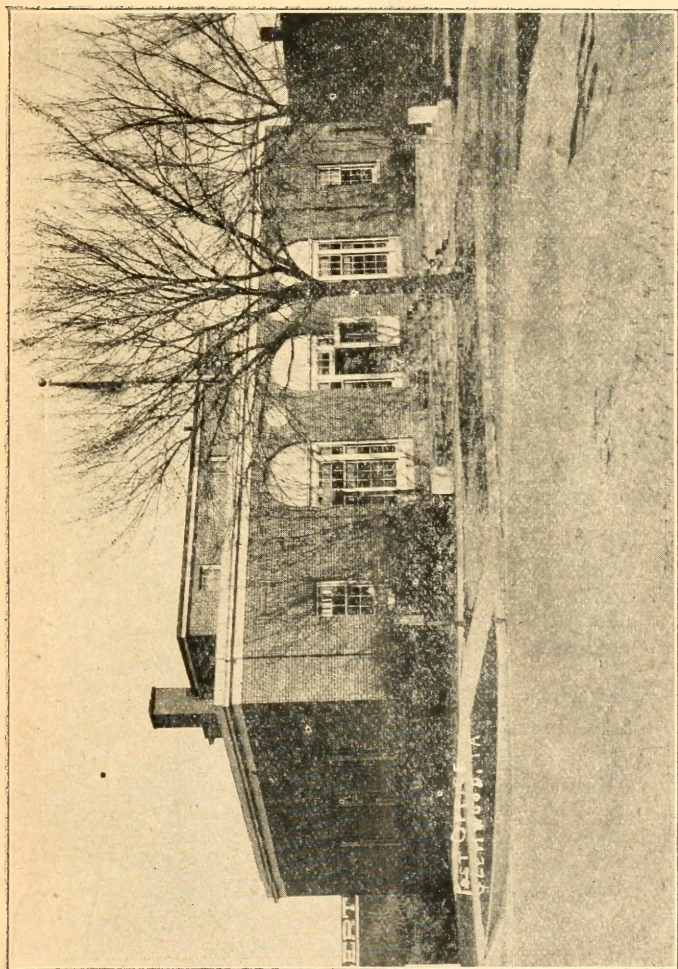
Susan Briggs Dean lived to see a good modern farm house take the place of the log cabin and the railroad they had dreamed of, built across the continent, passing near their home and in time she

with her husband took the train at a station a few miles from, but in plain view of the dwelling and leaving by rail visited her aged mother, brothers and sisters in Ohio, and the girlhood home in Vermont.

Her death occurred at her own home March 31, 1872.

But why dilate on the experiences of this home, the story was nearly the same in every family in western Iowa of pre-Civil war time, business was largely a swapping of commodities, the little money was carefully hoarded to pay Uncle Sam for the land, to pay taxes, and for certain articles that only money would buy. Chills and fever (or ague as it was then called,) with the usual whooping cough, measles, and other child diseases were common in every home. If bitten by a rattle snake the patient usually called for the bitters bottle, and it has been said that disease was no more fatal in those days than in the present age.





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